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[ONE PENNY.]

THE SULTAN AT WIMBLEDON.

It was nearly five o'clock when the Sultan and his son and nephews, with the chief officers of his suite, left Buckingham Palace in ten open carriages and four for Wimbledon, to be present at the Review, escorted by a detachment of the 3rd Hussars. His Majesty arrived at six, and was received with great enthusiasm by the largest concourse of spectators which has ever been assembled on Wimbledon Common. The Sultan on his arrival mounted one of the Queen's Arab horses—a magnificent animal of almost spotless white. His Majesty rode gracefully at the head of his suite, wearing the Order of the Garter, and having at his side a magnificently-jewelled scimitar. The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince d'Aosta, the son of the King of Italy, and Prince Teck, rode on his right and left hand, followed by a magnificent suite, nearly ninety in number, of staff and field officers, aides-de-camp, Albanians, Turkish, Arab, Roumelian, and Circassian chiefs, whose costumes were most gorgeous, and some especially picturesque. Though the troops and the

Volunteers, both English and foreign, were watched with a vast amount of interest, the sight of the day was the Sultan and his suite; the Father of the Faithful and his suite never looked more imposing than on this occasion, his milky-white Arab horse was covered with the most wonderful and gorgeous trappings, composed of endless red velvet and gold chains. He seemed much more like some Prince one reads of in the "Arabian Nights" than any potentate of this unromantic nineteenth century; he wore the same blue coat with its heavy gold embroidery in which he has appeared elsewhere, with the Order of the Garter across his breast, that he seems never to have thrown aside since Her Majesty invested him with it with her own Royal hands; while at his side there dangled a heavily jewelled sword, such as one may have seen among the loot obtained from some Indian prince. All the gorgeous dresses of his suite showed to far better advantage on horseback, and when our own staff and field officers began to amalgamate with these, the eye rested on as brilliant a display of gold and grandeur as one is likely to see for many a year to come. The Sultan rode first, alone, followed by his suite, and so made the tour of the entire field, and then re-

turned to the front of the grand stand—the Prince of Wales, Prince Teck, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke d'Aosta, on either side of him. In addition to the Garde Civique and the Household Brigade of Cavalry, there were four battalions of Foot Guards, a large force of Royal Artillery, and three divisions of Volunteers, numbering thirteen thousand, eight hundred and sixty-six effectives. At the conclusion of the march past the Sultan proceeded to Earl Spencer's cottage, where he dined with the Imperial Princes, the Prince of Wales, and the other members of the Royal family. The only fault we could find with the proceedings of the day, was that precautions were not taken to keep the mob within proper bounds. Only the exertions of the Prince of Wales and Prince Teck prevented them from coming into personal contact with his Imperial Majesty; who returned to town in his travelling carriage, escorted by a troop of Hussars, expressing himself much gratified with the day's entertainment in spite of the unfavourable state of the weather and the disappointments it entailed upon all who were present, from the highest to the lowest. Our illustration represents the Sultan on his Arabian charger, followed by his suite.



THE SULTAN AT WIMBLEDON.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE Earl of Malmesbury, in the absence of the Earl of Derby, by reason of illness, having moved to go into committee on the Reform Bill, Lord Halifax proposed the resolution of which he had given notice, to the effect that the scheme of redistribution of seats was inadequate, and that it was expedient to provide the means of giving more representatives to large and important constituencies than were allotted by the bill. In making this proposal the noble lord avowed that he had no alternative plan of his own to offer as a substitute for that of the Government, being desirous not to lay himself open to the charge of needlessly interfering with the duty of the Executive, and, moreover, that the matter should not be treated as a party question. The measure of Reform, so far as the franchise was concerned, was more extensive than any yet introduced by a Government, and his experience of the working classes gave him perfect confidence they they would neither abuse nor unworthily discharge the privileges thus conferred upon them. He could have wished therefore that the redistribution part of the bill had been conceived in the same spirit; but, unfortunately, it was full of inequalities and anomalies, and he contended that in order to effect a settlement that would be durable some of the small decayed boroughs should be abolished altogether, and their seats transferred to whatever places were more worthy of, and more entitled to them, and which were not now represented. In concluding, Lord Halifax impressed upon their Lordships the policy of availing themselves of the opportunity now presented for making the redistribution part of the measure coincident with the scope of the enlarged franchise, and thus place the settlement of the question on a more permanent basis.—The Earl of Malmesbury said that it was hardly becoming and decorous on the part of their Lordships at this the eleventh hour, to interfere with a scheme which was the result of so much time, labour, and thought, and so peculiarly the province of the Commons to deal with. As to the resolution now proposed, it was only an abstract one, but when reduced to detail it would really amount to another Reform Bill, and its adoption would be tantamount to a defeat of the measure for the present year and to throwing the question again into chaos and confusion. On all the points raised by the mover of the resolution the decision of the House of Commons had been recorded by large majorities, and the third reading was agreed to unanimously and without opposition even from Mr. Gladstone. He earnestly entreated their Lordships, then, not to interfere with the bill in the manner proposed by the amendment.—After a long debate a division took place, and the amendment was rejected, the numbers being for the amendment 59, against it 100.—Their Lordships then went into committee on the bill.

The consideration of the Reform Bill in committee was resumed at Clause 7, which abolishes the power of compounding for rates within parliamentary boroughs.—Earl Grey moved to omit the clause, and the proposal was resisted by the Lord Chancellor on the ground that the effect of its adoption would be to enfranchise the entire class of compound householders, and reduce the bill to confusion.—On a division the amendment was rejected by 148 to 43.—On clause 8 (registration) Lord Halifax proposed to repeal the 24th and 25th of 21 Wm. IV. c. 45, and in lieu thereof to enact that no person be registered as a county voter in respect of any premises within a borough if they entitle him to vote for such borough.—The Duke of Richmond observed that the Government had been strongly urged by their own friends to support the amendment as a most Conservative one; but he doubted if this were the object of the noble lord in proposing it. The original clause said, if "any other person" was entitled to vote for the borough, and the amendment would really tend to swamp the county constituency.—Earl Russell threw the weight of his vote into the scale in support of the amendment, which, however, was negatived on a division by 135 to 41.—Lord Lytton moved an amendment disqualifying persons who could not write legibly. This motion was rejected, but without a division. And a motion by the Marquis of Clanricarde to disqualify freemen created hereafter from voting at parliamentary elections met with a similar fate.—Lord Cairns then moved that in boroughs and counties returning three members no person should vote for more than two, and in the City of London for more than three candidates.—The motion, which was opposed by the Earl of Malmesbury, gave rise to some discussion, and was carried by 142 to 51 votes. The other clauses were then proceeded with.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced, in reply to Sir G. Grey, that it was with regret that he found he could not proceed further this session with the Parliamentary Elections Bill. Subsequently, the order for going into committee was discharged, and the bill withdrawn.—On the order for supply, Colonel North brought under the notice of the house the cases of Lieutenant Frederick N. Woodall and Lieutenant and Adjutant Henry Currie, of the 7th Highlanders, and Lieutenant and Adjutant Romaine F. Strike, 69th Regiment, and after describing their respective services and their claims to promotion, moved that in the opinion of the house no money consideration should delay the promotion of these officers.—The motion was opposed by Sir J. Pakington. On a division it was negatived by 65 to 54.

A morning sitting was held for the purpose of considering the Factory Acts Extension Bill, the Hours of Labour Regulation Bill, and two or three other measures of less importance, in committee. The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced, in reply to a question of Sir R. Palmer, that it was the intention of the Government to issue a commission of inquiry into the operation and effect of the present condition of the superior courts of law and equity in England, and the Courts of Admiralty and Divorce respectively.—On the order for going into committee on the Factory Acts Extension Bill, Mr. Moffatt moved that the House was not prepared, without further evidence, to interfere in the free exercise of labour to so great an extent as was contemplated by the measure. The hon. member urged that the subject was one in which both employers and employed ought to be heard before any legislation was proceeded with.—Mr. Walpole was of opinion that ample information was in the possession of the House.—Mr. Liddell recommended that the question should be postponed for the consideration of the new reformed Parliament; but Mr. Henley thought that so much success had attended this sort of exceptional legislation that the House might advantageously deal with the clauses in committee. The bill having been committed, the several clauses were agreed to with verbal amendments. Progress was also made with the Hours of Labour Regulation Bill, and the Sewage Bill was passed through committee. The sitting was then suspended. On re-assembling at nine o'clock there were not forty members present, and after some delay a count took place, and the members present dispersed.

DAMAGES FOR THE LOSS OF A WIFE.—At the Carlisle Assizes, on Friday, an action was brought against the Furness Railway Company by a Mr. Moffatt to recover compensation for the death of his wife. It appeared that on the 10th of May last the plaintiff's wife was travelling on the defendants' railway in one of their carriages as a passenger, and when going through the Furness tunnel the train ran into some trucks laden with iron ore. The collision caused the deceased a severe shock to her system. She lingered for thirty weeks, and then died in consequence of the accident, leaving the plaintiff with ten children. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £500, of which they apportioned £300 to the plaintiff, and £200 to be divided among his children.

COURT AND SOCIETY.

KING OTHO of Greece died at Bamberg at on evening of the 26th ult.

MR. LUSHINGTON has been compelled through ill health to resign the Secretaryship of Presentations.

MR. POPE HENNESSY will leave England to assume the Governorship of Labuan in September.

THE Government does not intend to make any appointment to the deanery of Elnly, pending the report of the Royal Commission on the Irish Church.

THE West Gloucestershire election terminated in favour of the Conservative candidate. The numbers at the close were:—Col. Somerset, 3,619; Mr. Berkeley, 3,557; majority, 92.

THE demise of Mr. Macaulay, Q.C., took place at his residence, Shaftesbury-road, Brooklands, Cambridge, about eight o'clock on Monday.

MR. FREMANTLE, Private Secretary to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has been appointed Secretary to the Boundary Commission.

DR. PUSEY has been examined before a select committee of the House of Commons during the past week, and is said to have given evidence regarding the uses of the confessional of the most extraordinary kind.

THE Prince of Wales has notified to the executive committee his intention of allowing his name to be added to that of Her Majesty as a patron of the National Exhibition of Works of Art at Leeds in 1868.

THE aristocratic racing meeting of Goodwood commenced on Tuesday, and has been most successful throughout the week, the weather being everything that could be desired, and the number of first-class horses on the ground far exceeding all former precedents.

HER Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, accompanied by Major-General Lord William Paulet and Lady Geraldine Somerset, left her residence in St. James's Palace on Tuesday afternoon for Dover, on her way to Rumpenheim, near Frankfurt.

THE Lord Chancellor has appointed the Rev. H. J. Hatch, who, it will be remembered, was wrongfully accused at the Central Criminal Court some years back, to the rectory of Little Stamburgh, Essex.

WE understand a marriage is arranged between Lady Georgiana Adelaide Russell, eldest daughter of the Earl Russell, and Mr. Archibald Peel, son of General Peel, M.P., and Lady Alice Peel. We believe the marriage will take place in the course of a few weeks.

WE hear that the Rev. Reginald Tuke, formerly curate of St. Mary's, Soho, and who has recently established a kind of monastery in the East-end of London, has been received into the Church of Rome.

LORD CRANBORNE wishes to correct a rumour which is mentioned as probable to the effect that the political article in the current *Quarterly* is his. He certainly has no reason to complain that so brilliant and powerful an article should be attributed to him. Still, as a matter of fact, he is not the author.

LORD DERRY has signified to Alderman Rose the Queen's intention to confer upon him the dignity of knighthood. As a civic dignitary, as an active volunteer officer, and as a magistrate, Alderman Rose has well earned the honour that has now been bestowed.

A RUMOUR is current in Ross-shire that the Princess of Wales has accepted an offer by her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland to place Castle Leod at the disposal of her Royal Highness, with a view of trying the effects of the Strathpeffer waters. Castle Leod is a picturesque old baronial residence, part of the patrimony of the Duchess of Sutherland as Countess of Cromartie, and is in the immediate neighbourhood of the mineral wells of Strathpeffer.

THE forthcoming visit of Her Majesty to Kelso is a matter of unusual interest in the district, and the various arrangements for the reception are being completed with great expedition. It has now been announced that the Queen will arrive at Kelso on the morning of the 21st inst. On her arrival at the station she will be met by their graces the Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe, and be conducted by them to their noble residence at Floors Castle.

THE House of Lords has given judgment in the Yelverton appeal case. The point to be decided was whether Major Yelverton, who, it was alleged by the appellant, had stated in the presence of a person since dead that he had been married to Miss Longworth, should be put upon his oath as to that declaration. The Court of Session had held the contrary, and their lordships now decided *non dis.* that the judgment of the Court of Session must be affirmed, and dismissed the appeal.

A GENTLEMAN, who has requested permission to preserve his incognito, and whose name, indeed, has not been made known even to the authorities, has contributed £5,000 to the Bishop of London's Fund, for the purpose of promoting the erection of a new church in Kensal-green, the district around which is rapidly increasing in population. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners have determined on liberally meeting this gift, and the arrangement for the new church and district will be completed without delay.

HER MAJESTY, we hear, has been pleased to confer the dignity of a baronet upon the Lord Mayor of London, in commemoration of the visit of his Imperial Majesty the Sultan and his Highness the Viceroy of Egypt to the City. The Queen has been further pleased to direct that the honour of knighthood be conferred upon the two sheriffs (Mr. Alderman Waterlow and Mr. Francis Lyett), in consideration of their having been associated with the Lord Mayor upon the occasion of the reception of the two illustrious Sovereigns.

THE baptism of the infant daughter of her Royal Highness Princess Mary Adelaide and his Serene Highness Prince Teck was performed in the Chapel Royal of Kensington Palace on Saturday afternoon. The Archbishop of Canterbury performed the baptismal rite. Her Majesty the Queen, represented by Princess Mary Adelaide of Teck, and the Duchess of Cambridge, and the Prince of Wales, were the godmothers and the godfather of the infant Princess, who was baptised Victoria Mary Augusta Louise Olga Pauline Claudine Agnes.

IT appears that the custom of not using the prayer for the High Court of Parliament is becoming very general among the High Church clergy. Correspondents inform us that on the last two Sunday evenings it has not been used at St. Mary Magdalene's, Paddington, and St. Mary Magdalene's, Chiswick, both of which churches were observing their dedication festivals. A layman has called the Bishop of London's attention to the constant omission of the prayer at St. John's, Hammersmith, at the morning service, and has received a most satisfactory reply.

THE little Princess Beatrice has always been noted for her thoroughly English proclivities, and not a few sparkling *mots* of hers have been whispered about from time to time. Not long ago she is reported to have expressed a decided antipathy to the recurrence of German alliances, and proposed a healthy change in the way of a Japanese match. But a still better story of her is now going about. The other day our Princess Royal of Prussia wrote to her little sister, and asked what she would like for a birthday present. The answer was pithy and to the point—"Send me Bismarck's head on a charger!"

SIR JOHN ROLT, Attorney-General, has written to Messrs. Shaen and Roscoe saying that the case of Governor Eyre has already received his careful consideration, and he has not thought it right to file a criminal information in the Court of Queen's Bench against him. He has perused the statement forwarded by them, entitled "List of Illegal Acts, &c.," and does not find anything that induces him to alter the conclusion at which he had previously arrived.

HOME AND DOMESTIC.

THE Goodwood Stakes were won by Gomera: Vici, second; La Dauphine, third.

SERGEANT MAJOR TALBOT has been promoted to an ensign, without purchase, in the 2nd West India Regiment.

AT no previous time within the last forty years have so many landed estates of from £500 to £5,000 a year been put up to auction, one of the effects of the financial crisis and panic of last year.

ON the 26th ult. one of Her Majesty's postillions, named John Head, was playing at cricket in the grounds at Osborne with some of the other members of the Royal household, when he complained of being unwell, and in a few moments fell to the ground and expired.

ANOTHER fatal case of Sabbath desecration took place last Sunday on the Tyne, at Newcastle. Six men and two women, all more or less intoxicated, went out in a pleasure boat, and getting into rough water a wave broke over them, and, capsizing the vessel, six of the party were drowned. Two of the men held on by the bottom of the boat until they were rescued in an exhausted condition.

WE learn that the reward offered for the detection of the villain who committed a murderous assault upon and plundered the premises of Mr. Vaughan, watchmaker, Bath-street, Bristol, has been increased to £150, and that the Secretary of State has promised to recommend for Her Majesty's free pardon any accomplice, not being the actual perpetrator of the assault, who shall give such information as will lead to the detection of the perpetrators of the outrage.

THE Carnarvon Assizes were held last week by the Right Hon. Sir F. Kelly (Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer), who has taken the North Wales Circuit; and when the first of the grand jury answered the summons, his lordship, addressing him, said that he exceedingly regretted that it was not in his power upon this his first occasion of visiting the county, to extend to him and his brethren the ordinary hospitality of inviting them to dinner. The reason was simply that the high sheriff had been unable to supply a suitable house wherein to lodge Her Majesty's Justices of Assize.

AT Hindley, near Wigan, three drawers, named John Hart, William German, and William Hart, each about sixteen or seventeen years of age, were lowered down the shaft at the Low Hall Colliery. When about fifty or sixty yards from the bottom the cage was overturned or disarranged, and John Hart was thrown to the bottom. He fell into the dib hole, and was taken out dead. His companions succeeded in retaining their places, but William Hart, the deceased's brother, was very dangerously injured, and German sustained a severe hurt.

THE applications for compensation for damages done during the late riots have been dismissed, mainly on a question of law—viz., the intention to demolish, wholly or in part, the houses attacked by the rioters. The law and the facts seems to justify the conclusion, which is, nevertheless, a very hard one, as many of the poorer people, both English and Irish, have suffered in body, as well as by the loss of goods. We have, therefore, great pleasure in stating that a number of gentlemen have begun a subscription for the relief of the poorer class of sufferers and already a considerable sum has been raised.

THE National Artillery Association, which, in spite of heavy rains and hurricanes of wind, maintains its encampment on the swampy flats of Shoeburyness, appears to have made on Friday and Saturday some excellent practice with both 32 and 68 pounders. Scotland's Challenge Cup was won by the Midlothian detachment, with 28 points. Several other detachments made larger scores, but they were not in the competition. The Lords and Commons' prize was won by the Sheffield detachment, which made 34 points. The competitions continued throughout last week.

ON the 26th ult., Mrs. Mary Tempest, of Low Moor House, Dewsbury-road, Leeds, died from the effect of injuries she received the previous day by being thrown from a vehicle. Mr. Tempest and his wife were driving through New Wortley on Thursday, and when near to the railway bridge the horse became alarmed at a passing train. It darted off at a great speed along Wellington-road, and finally the trap was overturned and its occupants pitched headlong into the road. Both were very seriously hurt, Mrs. Tempest unfortunately fatally, but her husband is recovering.

THOSE who are in the habit of looking upon the household cavalry as little more than ornamental troops will have occasion to qualify that view very much, when they reflect on what was done by one of these regiments on the 26th ult. The 2nd Life Guards marched from Hounslow in the morning, took part in the review, being about five hours on the ground, and then left for Windsor, where they arrived (after a halt at Hampton Court) at an early hour on Sunday morning. It was a march of 33 miles during the day, without taking into account the movements on the ground, and next morning both men and horses were in as good condition as if they had passed the previous day quietly in barracks.

WITHIN the last few days, on the farm of a man named Thomas McGarry, residing at Aughamore, near Granara, there was discovered a curious relic in the shape of a wooden house, which is constructed of black bog oak. It was found under water in an exhausted bog, at a considerable depth beneath the surface. It measures 23 feet by 16 feet, and consists of eight very strong beams, ranging in length from 10 feet to 13 feet, which are supported by cross-beams of great strength, and firmly jointed. The side beams are mortised, as if intended for uprights. The house was taken asunder in the process of raising, but this was so carefully done that it can all be put completely together again.

A PETRIFIED WOMAN.

PASSING through Berthier on the 21st of March, I paid a visit to the gentleman in whose house it is deposited, and received from him every civility and explanation that time would allow. The petrification, for such I must term it, is kept in a large chest made for the purpose, in a lower room of the house, under lock and key. On removing a fair linen cloth, one of the most extraordinary sights presented itself that probably ever came under notice. By a rare process of Nature, a body committed to earth in the ordinary way some twenty years since, in the churchyard of the village, instead of crumbling into ordinary dust, has become the petrified image of the human form, which once had being, life, and motion. The body, which in life was composed of both solid and empty parts, is now entirely solid, hard, and seems to be as completely stone as if quarried by mortal hand. It has the appearance of one of those ancient statues, abraded by time and exposure, which are seen in niches on the outside of cathedrals in Europe. In colour it is dark grey, or nearly black. The nose and mouth are destroyed, and one of the feet, I think, was gone. The trunk was perfect. Where the foot is broken it has every appearance of mutilated stone.

The small running stream, doubtless containing earthly particles, over which the coffin is supposed to have been originally deposited in the soil, presented, as I was informed, a bubbling spring, the exit of which was not larger than the palm of the hand. On either side two bodies had been interred about the time of the burial of the one in question. All these have entirely disappeared; a fact which shows that the influence of the petrifying spring, or rapidific fluid, did not extend beyond a narrow vein of the breadth of space occupied by the body which has suffered an extraordinary change.

PROVINCIAL.

JAMES SCOTT, sentenced to death at Warwick Assizes for the murder of Mr. John Pryse, whose execution had been fixed for Monday, was reprieved on Saturday.

AFTER a silence of five years, Mr. Gerald Massey is about to resume his old vocation of public lecturer. His new tour will be through the North of England and a part of Scotland.

ON Saturday a man named White, a labourer in Manchester, was quarrelling with his wife, and was in the act of striking her with a broom handle, when the blow fell upon the head of their child, causing almost instant death.

ON Sunday afternoon the Lord Bishop of Ripon preached a sermon to the Leeds Engineer Volunteers, in the White Cloth Hall-yard, where a field service was conducted. The corps mustered nearly 800 strong. An immense number of the public were admitted by ticket.

Messrs. MERRYWEATHER AND SONS, of London, have just supplied one of their small-sized single-cylinder steam fire-engines to the town of Cardiff. This engine is built precisely the same as that which gained the first prize gold medal at the Paris Exhibition, and a few days back a public trial of its capabilities took place in the town. When measured for quantities it was found to throw 20 per cent. per minute in excess of that guaranteed by the makers.

A COMMITTEE of officers of the 13th brigade Royal Artillery has investigated the cause of the explosion of a cannon at Dover, on the Sultan's departure. On scrutinising the gun it was found to be partly "honeycombed;" there was a slight fissure about a foot within the muzzle of the piece, in which some of the smouldering wadding is presumed to have lingered, and which was kindled when the air got in at the vent, and it was on ramming home that the explosion took place.

A SUCCESSFUL volunteer review took place at Derby on Saturday. The men of the 1st and 3rd Derbyshire, 1st Warwickshire, 1st Leicestershire, the Birmingham and the Robin Hood (Nottingham) Rifles were inspected by Colonel Erskine, Inspector-General of Volunteers. Subsequently there was a sham fight, in which various manoeuvres were executed with creditable precision. The day was cloudy, but became finer towards evening. About 20,000 spectators witnessed the review.

"ELECTION SATURDAY" was observed on the 27th ult. at Eton College. Dr. Oke, the Provost of King's, with his two posers, Messrs. Bosanquet and Whitting, arrived at the College about two o'clock. The Provost of King's was met by the Provost, Fellows, and Head Master of Eton, and the Captain of the school delivered the "cloister speech." After chapel the Provost and Fellows gave a banquet to the visitors. The regatta took place in the evening, the boys dining as usual at Surley Hall.

At a numerously-attended meeting of the members of the North Riding Chamber, Mr. John Metcalfe moved "That this meeting views with dissatisfaction the attempt to enforce the new Highway Act upon the North Riding of Yorkshire, and records that the ratepayers are strongly opposed to its adoption, and are convinced that the result of its passing at the next session would be increased expenditure on the roads without improving their condition." The resolution was carried.

As the train due at Holyhead at 2 25 p.m. was proceeding from that station to the mail boat, the pointsman at the pier omitted to direct the train in its proper direction. Half the train, therefore, ran into a train of coal waggons, and was only prevented from running into the harbour by changing the points as the other half of the train passed, and throwing the latter part off the line which held on the former part. The carpenter of the Connaught was knocked down by a pair of gates being carried away by the engine, and had to remain in Holyhead.

ON Friday the inquest on the body of the man Somersfield was concluded at Walsall. Evidence was given to show that deceased was stabbed to the heart, and that he had entered the house of the prisoner Beaman (with whose wife he had an improper acquaintance), and after assaulting him and his wife, was attacked by the prisoner. They both rolled on the floor, and the deceased appeared to get the better of Beaman, whose life he said he would take there and then. At the termination of the struggle Somersfield was found dead on the floor. The jury returned a verdict of "Justifiable homicide."

ON Saturday, at the Bedford Assizes, the Rev. James O'Neill, the vicar of Luton, was indicted for publishing a certain defamatory libel. The libel was contained in a letter published in the *Luton Times*. The letter charged the plaintiff (Julius Shepherd) with falsehood, and with being concerned in a disreputable plot against the defendant. The jury found the defendant guilty, upon which he was allowed to enter into his recognisances, and appear to receive sentence when called upon. In the course of the afternoon Mr. O'Neill was called upon to receive sentence, and was condemned to pay to the Queen a fine of £50, and to be imprisoned until the fine was paid.

GENERALLY, the badly blighted hop plantations have gone from bad to worse in the last week. There are grounds that had only been partially or moderately affected, and had not positively gone into blight, which are become cleaner; whilst again, some which had been free from attack have become infested with vermin. One thing, unfortunately, seems more than probable, that there will be a deficient crop, the only question being how short it will be. The answer to this inquiry depends upon the weather of the approaching month. If the temperature by day and night should continue as cold as at present, the produce must be small indeed; on the other hand, warm weather, both by day and night, for the next month or six weeks would increase it, probably, beyond present expectations.

An experiment of the American system of railway travelling will probably be made in England shortly. The bridge and viaduct at Runcorn Gap will save ten miles in the London and North Western Company's line between London and Liverpool. On the completion of this work the company, it is said, intend to put on express trains to accomplish the whole distance, over 200 miles, in about four and a quarter hours. As the arrangement will not permit of a single stoppage, the convenience of passengers is to be consulted by the construction of carriages on the American principle. There will be a passage from end to end of the train, together with retiring and refreshment rooms. The engine will refresh itself on the journey by a feeding trough near Rugby, similar to that now used by the limited Irish Mail between Chester and Holyhead.

ON Wednesday night a commercial clerk named Crossley, living in Alma-street, Brightside, Sheffield, beat his little boy, 11 years of age, with shocking severity. The child has caused his father a great deal of trouble by his propensity for lying. On the other hand, the child has been much repressed at home and very frequently beaten. His mother is dead, and his father has married again. On Wednesday night the child was detected in several lies, and his father beat him savagely with a birch rod. The neighbours communicated with the police, and the chief constable sent the child to Dr. Young to be examined. The doctor found his shoulders, back, and loins covered with bruises and bleeding wounds, so that a finger could not be laid on a sound place. In consequence of the doctor's report the father was brought before the magistrates on Friday, but the doctor not being present the case was remanded. "I suppose," said one of the magistrates to the father, "that we must send the boy back with you, and I hope you can be trusted not to beat him again before to-morrow." "I'll never touch him again," said the father, bursting into tears. Upon this the little boy looked up and began to cry too, and said, taking his father's hand, "Don't cry, father; I'd sooner go to prison than you should go." Thus weeping, the father and child left the court together.

FOREIGN AND GENERAL.

THE Sultan reached Vienna on Saturday morning, and was received by the Emperor and the Archdukes.

THE Scientific Association of France has voted 78,000 francs this year for scientific investigations and experiments.

It is stated that the works of the late Emperor of Mexico are about to be published in Austria, consisting of four volumes of memoirs, travels, and poetical effusions.

THERE are 15 localities in California at which diamonds have been found in the course of washings for gold.

Mdlle. TIETJENS is said to have accepted a brilliant engagement at St. Petersburg for the coming winter season. Mdlle. Lucca is engaged there also, for sixteen performances.

JASPER is now procured, to almost any required extent, at St. Gervais, in Savoy, where the quarry has a surface of at least 24,000 square yards, and a depth of about 22 yards.

LAST week an encounter took place between the Papal gendarmes and some brigands, in which two of the latter were killed and several were wounded, notably their chief, Panice. Another encounter also occurred in which four brigands were killed.

THE *Moniteur* asserts that there is no fear of a conflict arising out of the international relations of France, and denies the truth of the report that two camps are being formed, and that extraordinary military preparations are being made.

OMAR PASHA is in possession of the heights round Spakia; the junction of the troops from the north and south sides of the island has been effected. At Franco Castelli the Turks have discovered a cave in which two members of the Provisional Government have taken refuge with several families.

It is a growing grievance among our Natal Caffres that they cannot purchase a wife owing to the rise in the price. It used to be about ten cows or so—perhaps less; a bouncing girl could be got for fifteen. But now twenty cows, on the coast, at any rate, is the minimum cost to a man of getting married.

BOTANISTS may be interested to hear that a naturalist exhibits in the reserved garden of the Paris Exhibition a very complete collection of mosses from the Pyrenees. About three hundred varieties exist in these mountains, specimens of the greater portion of which will be found in this interesting collection.

ACCOUNTS from Lemberg state that twenty-seven communes in Galicia have been completely devastated by the inundations. The Municipal Council of that city has voted 5,000 florins (2l. 50s. each) in aid of the sufferers. The damage done to the railways is estimated at seven millions of florins.

THE subscription list for the erection of a statue to Voltaire, to which 150,000 persons have already subscribed, will be closed on the 30th of Sept. The commission to decide on the character of the monument includes some of the most eminent literary men in France. Amongst them are M. de Sainte-Beuve and M. Prosper Mérimée, both senators, and M. Coquerel, jun.

MUCH excitement has been caused both in France and Prussia during the last few days by the report that a note of a somewhat peremptory nature had been addressed to Prussia by the French Government in reference to North Schleswig. We believe there has been no French despatch delivered or read to the Cabinet of Berlin either in reference to Schleswig or any other question.

A REMARKABLE instance of the well-known vitality of seeds may be now seen at the Paris Exhibition, a great variety of plants foreign to France having sprung up under the walls and around the buildings in the Park, the seeds of which have been conveyed to Paris in packages from various countries. Especially around the house of "Gustavus Wassa" several plants may be seen which are peculiar to the country of that monarch.

M. ANTONIN UDAETE, formerly agent de change on the Bolea of Madrid, and one of the richest capitalists of Spain, lately went to Rome. A week after his arrival he died suddenly. When his will was opened, on the day of the funeral, he was found to have named Pius IX. as his heir. A communication from Madrid states that the fortune of the deceased amounts to six millions of francs, and that his relatives intend to oppose the will as a forgery.

FRENCH local papers give a curious account of the result of sinking an artesian well in the Department of Aude, near Narbonne. When the depth of 180 feet had been attained, a stream of carburetted hydrogen gas rushed up the tube, which, being lighted, has continued to burn steadily with a red flame. Along with this gas water flows, which is stated to be extremely bitter and cold.

Dr. MARCHANT, of Charenton, treating of the importance of insuflation in cases of asphyxia, recommends the persons present to introduce a new tobacco pipe into one of the nostrils, then pinch them close together, and also shut the mouth by laying the palm of the hand upon it, so as to prevent the air from escaping; and lastly, to make one of the bystanders take the bowl of the tobacco pipe into his mouth, and slowly blow into it till his breath is exhausted. The patient's chest will be seen to heave, the operator should then stop and press it down again with his hands, and thus continue alternately blowing and pressing till the heart begins to throb, and natural respiration is restored.

A SINGULAR accident occurred to the express train which left Basel about 5.30 p.m. on Monday evening, and was due in Paris about the same hour on Tuesday morning. The day and evening had been very oppressive, and a violent storm of lightning and rain came on about midnight. It had not quite terminated when the train had passed Troyes and was within 100 miles of Paris. The passengers were alarmed by a violent jolting and thumping, and the train was brought to a standstill. It was then found that the cause of alarm was a large poplar tree which, either struck by lightning or washed down by a sudden rush of water, had been lying directly across the line; the engine had cut a piece 18 inches in diameter and 8 ft. long clean out of it, and carried it on for fifty yards. The three pair of wheels had then left the rails, and the front was stove in—otherwise there was no damage done.

SEVERAL of the German journals have stated that the Queen of Hanover has been repeatedly invited to leave the Chateau of Marienburg and the country, or to accept the following conditions:—First, to discharge the persons of her suite, and her domestic servants; and to accept a household chosen by the Prussian Government; secondly, to hoist the Royal Prussian flag on the chateau; and thirdly, to allow a detachment of Prussian troops to mount guard at the palace. Her Majesty vainly remonstrated, and showed that she was residing in her own house; the King of Prussia at length intimated, by a formal order from Ems, that the Queen must leave the country and her chateau if she refused to accept the conditions. Three days were given to her for consideration. In consequence, the Queen and the youthful Princess Mary left Marienburg on Wednesday morning for Vienna, by way of Cassel.

PRINCE YOUSSEF IZZEDIN, SON OF THE SULTAN.

WE have already given a portrait and memoir of the Sultan of Turkey. We now present a portrait of his son Prince Youssef Izzedin, who accompanied his father to England. He is about ten years of age, and his countenance for pleasing intelligence will be well-remembered, as he always occupied a prominent position, looking out of the window of the Royal carriage. Unlike the Royal sons of former Sultans, this young Prince has not been doomed to constant seclusion in the Royal harem; he has been privileged to see about like the Princes of Christian countries. He is not the heir-apparent, as the Sultanhood does not go from father to son, as in this country. The first nephew of the Sultan takes the precedence, as explained in our memoir of the Sultan.

METROPOLITAN.

THE new London police magistrate will be Mr. Ralph Benson, recorder of Shrewsbury.

MR. EDWIN CANTON, surgeon to the Charing-cross Hospital, has just been appointed Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery in the same institution.

THERE is once more a "simmering" of rumour that opera in English is once again to be attempted during the early winter season.

ASTLEY's is to be let or sold. Mr. E. T. Smith is reputed to be the future occupant of the Lyceum Theatre after Mr. Fechter's term of leasehold shall have expired.

THE temporary reception saloon at the Guildhall, erected for the visit of the Sultan, is not to be removed until after Lord Mayor's day.

THE *Manchester Guardian* states that the *Fortnightly Review* has been sold to Messrs. Chapman and Hall, the publishers, of Piccadilly. It is to undergo certain transformations, and then to be published by them avowedly as a monthly journal.

MR. RUSSELL, who is to undertake promenade concerts at Covent Garden Theatre this autumn, has engaged MM. Bottesini and Straus, as conductors; and among other singers, Mdlle. Sarotta and Mdlle. Jetty Treffz.

IN addition to Lord Ranelagh, Mr. W. Dilke, and Sir H. Hoare already in the field, the names of Mr. Thomas Carlyle and Mr. Goldwin Smith are mentioned as probable candidates for the representation of Chelsea in Parliament, after the Reform Bill of the present session has come into operation.

MANY people at the West-end have been robbed in a most daring and heartless manner. The robberies are effected by men who pretend to come and look at the gas-meter. They go downstairs first, and ask for the card on which to register the quantity consumed. Then one pretends that some of the taps must be turned on upstairs, as there is an escape. Anything of value is appropriated by the thieves.

At an adjourned special quarter sessions for the county of Middlesex, held on Saturday, four journeymen tailors, sentenced severally by Mr. Knox, at the Marlborough-street Police-court, to three months' imprisonment for acts of intimidation, appealed against their convictions. After a lengthened hearing the sentences were confirmed. In a fifth case, that of a man named Reardon, who obtained admission to a tailor's shop under the pretence of being in search of employment, and then, after calling the men at work "dungs," and abusing them, walked out, the conviction was quashed.

THE Indian civil service commissioners have determined not to award the prize of £100 offered for proficiency in law in the special examination of the selected candidates of 1865. This determination, which results from the report of the examiners that a sufficiently high standard of merit was not attained, is causing great dissatisfaction among the candidates, who worked very hard for the examination, and exhibited a creditable knowledge of legal principles, considering that they had no regular course of legal study prescribed to them. Although none of them are considered qualified for the prize, the majority of them will be deemed competent to fill magisterial offices in India.

ON Saturday evening the members of the North London Swimming Club competed for the captaincy and medals, the distance being 800 yards, in the large pond, on the lower beach, Hampstead. There were several entries, but the result was in favour of James Cole, who very easily became entitled to the captaincy and a silver medal at the finish; G. Cole being second, and W. Cole third, who also received a medal each. All three are well-known "Serpentinians," and their skill gave much satisfaction to a very large number of spectators. Mr. Carling, the honorary secretary, was the starter; Mr. H. Woodstock, of *Bell's Life*, officiating as timekeeper and judge. The club have an amateur handicap, 400 yards, to-day.

DUCKS AFTER A SHOWER.

THERE is nothing so good for a farmer's health and pocket as early rising. During summer I can seldom sleep after five, so from early dawn I enjoy the then exquisitely pure and wholesome atmosphere, and return to an eight o'clock breakfast with an almost ravenous appetite. How instructive to an inquiring and observing mind are those early hours; and, looking at the ducks, how absurd it appears that man should dread the feathered tribe on his cultivated fields. They are his very best friends, and this conclusion grows stronger upon me as I watch their operations and habits. As soon as the poultry door is opened, away they go to the fields, and I now see a flock of juvenile ducklings hurrying over that portion of my rare field from which the green tares have been recently removed, and devouring the slugs by hundreds, probably by thousands. Their instinct teaches them the proper time and place to look for them. When we know that this spring thousands of wheat fields have been devastated by slugs, should I not rejoice and be thankful to these ducks for appropriating the fathers and mothers of a future stock of destructive slugs? With a large stock of chickens I am spared the torment of many flies, for not a gentle fly escapes them when within reach. Having regard to the welfare of agriculture, it is high time that agriculturists should fully understand the habits of birds, and no longer forbear to look upon them as their very best friends. I am glad to see that the Minister of Agriculture in France has issued a prohibition against the destruction of small birds, and has given sound reasons for their preservation. As I said before, several of my wheat fields are open to the poultry, and close to the poultry house. Their abundant crops testify to the profit of a close intimacy between the fowl and the field. I am treading on tender ground when I say that I like to see ducks in a garden, as a source of profit by the destruction of slugs, &c. Thick sowers of corn, who get their crops prematurely and injuriously laid flat, would feel annoyed at the fowls and ducks walking over them; but with the proper quantity of seed, according to the state of the land, such annoyance would be avoided. Even with laid crops the loss is but trifling. I have just harvested a crop of clover close to the duck pond, estimated at three tons per acre: although laid flat it suffered no injury from the ducks. During its early growth the ducks searched it, stetch by stetch, night and morning, for slugs, but they avoided it as it grew thick and close. I find it most conducive to the well-doing of poultry to have a load or two of road sand or grit, as well as some lime, under a shed kept dry.—MR. MENCH.

LOPEZ.—The *Liberty* narrates the following incident in the life of the infamous Lopez:—"The colonel was one day surprised at the head of a squadron by a considerable ambush of the enemy. As heroism is not positively his forte, he commanded a retreat, and turned his horse's head. In his flight the animal received a ball and fell. A soldier, in his extreme peril, took the colonel up behind him; but the horse having double weight slackened his pace, and the enemy approached rapidly. Lopez understood that if nothing was done they were both lost; and so he drew a pistol from his belt, shot the soldier in the back, threw down the corpse, and then escaped alone."

LOSING MONEY BY FARMING, AND HOW TO PREVENT IT.

I SEE SO many painful instances around me where an extensive acreage of arable land (over 2,000 acres, in farms varying from 100 to 500 acres), has been causing a loss to the occupiers annually of more than £1 per acre, besides interest of capital, that I am induced to point out causes, and suggest a remedy. I wish to show how it is that I, on the contrary, realize on a similar soil the improved rent of 40s. per acre, and, in addition, a farmer's profit of 30s. per acre.

It becomes time that I should speak out on this matter, for I have submitted long and patiently enough to the cuckoo cry, "Mr. Mechi, it is the business in town that supports the farm," which implied that the practice I pursued was a wrong and fanciful one, and therefore unfitted for a practical farmer.

The rent of these lands varies from 23s. to 28s. per acre, the former of the same natural quality as my own, the latter very much better than mine. It is not a question of too high rent, for 3s. or 4s. more or less per acre will never break or make a farmer, although, of course, every man has a right to try and get his farm on the cheapest terms. The immediate cause of loss is that the crops are too small, and in money value less than the expenses.

How is this to be altered? Clearly only by making the crops larger and more valuable. You can't reduce or avoid certain fixed expenses, however poor the crop may be. Rent, rates, tithes, taxes, tradesmen's bills, depreciation of horses and machinery, horse labour, manual labour, must be paid, and the farmer can't live without a profit to purchase his food and clothing. Therefore with such minimum crops he loses his money, and leaves his farm too often a ruined man.

The only remedy for this disagreeable state of things is increased crops of much greater value, and how are these obtained? Only by increased manure, aided by drainage where required, and deeper and cleaner cultivation. But how is this greatly increased quantity of manure to be got? Principally and most economically by keeping a much larger quantity of live stock, and by feeding them with a good deal of something that did not grow on your own farm, in addition to your own consumable produce. Don't be afraid to put your hands in your pocket for the wherewithal to purchase cattle food and manure. "But then, Mr. Mechi, suppose that there is no money in the pocket, but it is already in the land, what shall we do then?" My answer would immediately be, get rid of the farm, and take one of half or one-third its size. It is your only chance; and this brings me to the testing-point of the question—why I succeed, while some of my neighbours fail in making a profit.

My farming capital is fully £15 per acre, theirs probably less than half that amount: £6 of my capital per acre is invested as an average in live stock, all well-fed, growing, and fattening, and of course I make three times as much manure as those who only have £2 per acre so invested; and as a logical consequence my crops must be proportionately larger than theirs, while the only increase in my expenditure is a somewhat higher rental and the additional labour required for so much more stock and produce. This is the main weakness of heavy land arable farming, too much land in proportion to capital; and it will never be generally altered until landlords and tenants bring themselves to believe that £15 per acre is a much more profitable investment on ordinary land than £5 per acre.

I say £5 per acre, because I am informed by a gentleman of great practical valuing knowledge in this county that the average capital of farmers of 100 to 200 acres in this county is only £5 per acre. Taking the average farm capital of the United Kingdom, I believe it to be only £4 per acre, and the produce £3 12s. per acre.

Those who do not believe in this necessity for a larger acreable capital, and will not adapt themselves to the new conditions of agricultural progress, must pass rapidly to the wall, for they have to compete with many British farmers who are keenly alive to the altered state of things, and are employing a capital in many instances of £20 per acre.

It also becomes necessary to believe that an increased rental (15s. per acre in my case) for paved and covered yards, steam power, well-drained land, good roads, and few trees and fences, and better general accommodation for man and beast, is profitable: for all these things have a most material influence on farm profits; but I will not go into details in this paper.

The fact is that agriculture is in a transitional condition; we are passing from a large area and a small population to a large population and a consequently small comparative area. Our population was only 10 millions in 1800, now it is 30 millions. The change is rapid from pastoral to arable, and the greatly increased competition for land arising from the greater population has naturally heightened the item of rent, which, at its present high rate, will not permit of cheap and natural, or primitive farming, as in former times.

I know of several instances where farmers have passed from a small to a large farm and have been ruined by this thinner spreading of their capital. How can they hope to compete successfully with men who I know, on a farm of 1,200 acres in Norfolk, buy £3,000 worth of lined cake annually to be consumed upon the farm, and thus fill it with fertility?

In another instance, of about the same extent, £120,000, or £100 per acre, has, during a tenure of 25 years, been expended in purchased food and artificial manures. The farmers who only consume what they grow upon their own farms have no chance with such competitors.



PRINCE YOUSSEUF IZZEDIN, THE SULTAN'S SON.

fullest particulars on all points that could interest a future husband may be frankly given in the first instance; it being of course understood that the lady herself is not made aware of the communication. Unexceptionable references will be given in due course.—Address, &c."

THE QUAKERS.

AT the recent annual assemblage of Quakers, or, as they better like to be called, members of the Society of Friends, some statistics were presented of the numerical strength of the sect. The shades of Fox and Barclay, who certainly believed that all the world would turn Quakers, must be distressed to know that they have only 13,786 followers in England, and that of these a majority of 838 are women. Some years ago prizes were offered for the best essays on the decline of Quakerism, and we believe the successful authors told the society some plain truths. At any rate a more liberal spirit is now shown by the leaders of the body; music is tolerated as a part of education, and piety is not deemed inseparable from eccentric raiment. But with a growing population Quakerism cannot be said to grow, for its net increase for the year has been only eleven; and whilst ninety are stated to have joined by conviction, eighty-five felt compelled by conviction to leave the society. A "Friend" of severe Old Testament training, hinted, when these statistics were read, that the numbering of the members was somehow the cause of the condition of the body, for he reproachfully likened it to the offence of David in numbering the people of Israel. Another considered that if Quakers were more ready to go to gaol Quakerism would increase; but "who," he asked, "will go there?" "and who," he might have added, "will send us?" He was probably comforted to hear that the Friends have suffered during the past year 59 distraints for church rates, 211 for tithe rent charge, and 21 for "other ecclesiastical demands."

DEPARTURE OF THE SULTAN.

ON Tuesday his Majesty took his departure, being escorted in state to the Charing Cross Station, which was gallily decorated and crowded with ladies; thence he travelled by special train to Dover, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, and embarked on board Her Majesty's yacht Osborne, for Calais, escorted by the iron-clads, Minotaur, Achilles, Lord Clyde, Belleophon, and Pallas. The Right Hon. T. L. Corry, Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas Pasley, and Capt. the Hon. Francis Egerton, A.D.C., accompanied his Imperial Majesty in the yacht. Our artist has represented in a bird's-eye view, the departure of the Sultan from Buckingham Palace, and the Royal cortege in its passage up the Mall and past the Royal abode of St. James's.

MATRIMONIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE following advertisement appears in the *English Independent*: Matrimonial.—"A gentleman, holding a highly respectable position, whose business engagements and literary tastes have hitherto kept him away from society, seeks the kind offices of some Christian minister or gentleman to obtain for him an introduction to a suitable partner. He desires to find a young lady, aged about twenty or twenty-two, of true piety and earnest religious convictions, who would make him a good wife in every respect, and who would especially be fitted to give him support and sympathy in Sunday-school and other Christian work. He takes this very unusual step from a belief that many of those most worthy his choice are hidden from the very force of their goodness, and are at all events not most readily to be met with in ordinary society. The advertiser requests that (without mentioning names) the very

MARRIAGE IN HIGH LIFE.

ON the 20th ult. the marriage of the Hon. Robert Wellesley Grosvenor, M.P., eldest son of Lord and Lady Ebury, and the Hon. Emilie Beaujola White, daughter of Lord and Lady Annaly, was solemnised at St. Paul's Church, Wilton-place, Knightsbridge. A very large congregation filled the church, chiefly composed of the relatives and friends of the contracting parties. The bridegroom was attended by the Hon. Reginald A. J. Talbot, of the 1st Life Guards, who acted as "groomsman." The bride was accompanied by her mother, and on alighting was received by her father, Lord Annaly, and the following bridesmaids:—Lady Emily Villiers, daughter of the Earl and Countess of Clarendon; Lady Catherine Parker, sister of the Earl of Morley; Lady Caroline Villiers, daughter of the Countess of Jersey; Lady Diana Beauclerk, daughter of the Duchess (Dowager) of St. Albans; Hon. Victoria Grosvenor, sister of the bridegroom; and Miss Balfour. The bride wore a dress of rich white satin, richly trimmed with Brussels lace, a veil to correspond, and a wreath of orange flowers. The bridesmaids were uniformly attired in white tulle, with blue sashes and bonnets trimmed with blue. The Rev. Charles Bowen, rector of St. Mary's, Chester, assisted by the Hon. and Rev. R. Liddell, the incumbent of St. Paul's, performed the ceremony. Among the principal presents to the bride were a tiara of diamonds from Lord Annaly; a diamond necklace and splendid diamond pendant from Lord and Lady Ebury; a superb diamond and pearl cross, and a diamond and coral bracelet from the bridegroom; an emerald ring and an enamelled locket, set with diamonds, from Lady Annaly; a bracelet, set with pearls and turquoise, from the Marchioness of Westminster; a superb sapphire and diamond necklace from the Earl of Dudley; a massive silver tea and coffee service from the Marquis of Westminster; and a valuable and costly mounted dressing-case, the gift of the bride's brothers, Col. the Hon. Luke White and Capt. the Hon. Charles White, and other costly and beautiful presents. Among the most valued of the gifts were some splendid diamond ornaments, presented to the bride by the tenants of Lord Annaly in the counties of Limerick, Longford, and Clare. The newly-married couple left town at a quarter to three o'clock for Moore-park, Lord Ebury's seat, near Rickmansworth, to pass the honeymoon.

THE IRISH ELOPEMENT.

IN consequence of an urgent telegraphic message received from Dublin, Head-constable O'Neill awaited at the Great Southern and Western Railway Terminus, Cork, the arrival of the two a.m. train from Dublin. The head-constable had arranged himself for the occasion in a gorgeous mufti, which so transfigured his appearance as to place him beyond the recognition of the few officials and others on the platform, who speculated curiously as to the business of the portly-looking and exceedingly heavy swell promenading leisurely at so early an hour of the morning. On the arrival of the train a lady and gentleman stepped out of a compartment of a first-class carriage, and upon these the keen eye of the magnificent saunterer rested with a glance half doubtful, half satisfied. The gentleman was young, stylishly-dressed, and of easy deportment; the lady some years older, but of considerable personal attractions, which were enhanced by particularly fashionable attire. The gentleman quitted his female companion to superintend the removal of a large quantity of luggage, and on his return the head constable politely addressed him by name, saying in a tone of well-feigned surprise, and with the familiarity of an old acquaintance, "Hallo, —! What the deuce brings you here?" The person thus addressed started and scanned with evident confusion the stranger, who without waiting his reply, turned to the lady and expressed his surprise at the meeting, which he gallantly declared to be a pleasure he did not anticipate. The pair protested their ignorance of their unexpected and evidently malapropos friend, but did not attempt to deny their names, or to disguise their identity. The result of a brief interview was that both accompanied the head constable to Union-quay station, where they were detained until morning, when the lady was seen to the eight o'clock train, and notice of her return telegraphed to Dublin, her paramour, an hour after, being put on board the steamer for London, which city was otherwise the destination of the couple. The distressing part of the affair is the fact that the lady is the wife of a gentleman occupying a respectable official position in Dublin, and is, besides, the mother of four children; while the person with whom she eloped was also in a valuable situation under Government, and enjoyed the friendship and confidence of her husband. The detection was, it must be added, very cleverly and courteously managed by Head-constable O'Neill.—*Cork Examiner.*

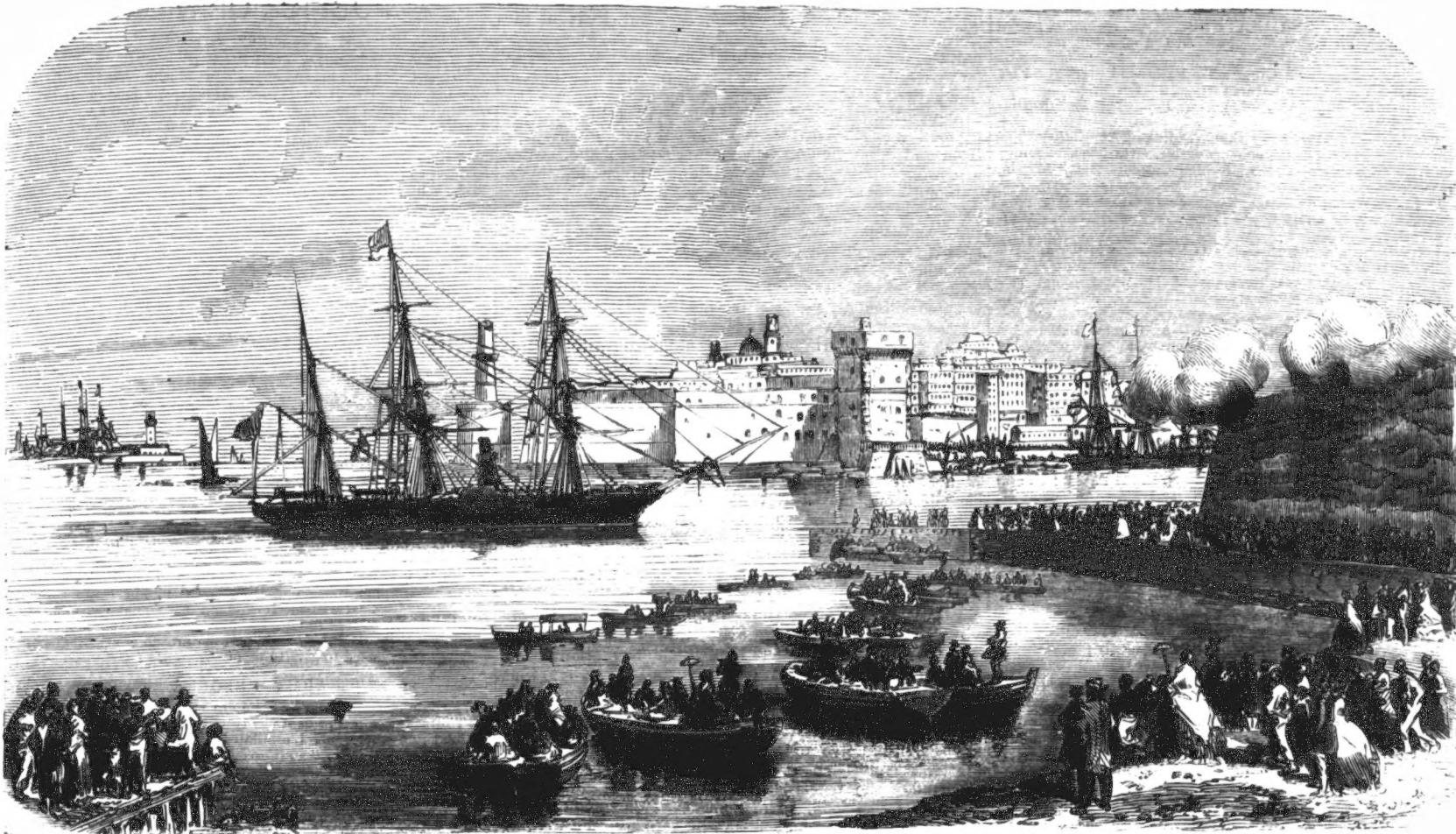
SHOCKING ACCIDENT AT STAFFORD.—On Saturday last a shocking occurrence took place near Stafford. On the morning above named a young gentleman named James H. King, 24 years of age, a solicitor, residing at Stourbridge, in which town he was clerk to the magistrates, and a friend, engaged two boats, or rather canoes, for the purpose of a row down the river as far as Radford. All went well for some distance, when Mr. King's canoe capsized, and he was precipitated into the river. Nothing daunted by the drenching he received, Mr. King—who, it may be observed, could not swim—resolved upon another aquatic excursion in the evening, remarking jocularly to his friend that he would leave his watch behind, so that if he were drowned that would not be lost. They proceeded in safety until they approached Radford, when the companion of Mr. King, who had rowed or paddled some distance ahead, turned round, and was horrified by the sight of his friend struggling helplessly and hopelessly in deep water, his canoe being upset and floating in the stream. He at once raised a cry for help, and assistance was speedily at hand. The unfortunate gentleman was got out of the river as quickly as possible, but too late, life was extinct, although a medical gentleman was promptly on the spot. The body was removed to the Trumpet Inn at Radford, where it awaits a coroner's inquest. The unfortunate deceased had been professionally attending the assizes at Stafford.

POSTAL NOTICE.—At the request of the Government of Victoria, the transmission in the mails sent *via* Panama, of newspapers, books, and packets of patterns or samples of merchandise, addressed to the colony of Victoria, will be discontinued, and in future only such letters and packets will be sent to Victoria by that route as are fully prepaid at the letter rate of postage, viz., sixpence per half ounce, and are specially addressed to be so forwarded.

JUST OUT, STEAM ENGINES (Patent), price 1s. 6d. each, of horizontal construction, manufactured entirely of metal fitted with copper boiler, steam pipe, furnace, &c., complete. Will work for hours if supplied with water and fuel. Sent carriage free, safely packed in wooden case, for 24 stamps.—TAYLOR BROTHERS, 21, Norfolk-road, Essex-road, Islington, London. Established 1859. —[ADVT.]

CARDS FOR THE MILLION.—A Copper-Plate Engraved (and style), and Fifty Best Cards Printed, with Card Case included, for 2s. Sent post free by ARTHUR GRANGER, the noted Cheap Stationer, 308, High Holborn, and the New Borough Bazaar, 95, S.E.—[ADVT.]

IN consequence of the Reduction in Duty, Horniman's Teas are now supplied by the Agents, Eight-pence per lb. cheaper. Every Genuine Packet is signed "Horniman and Co."—[ADVT.]



ARRIVAL OF THE EMPRESS AT BREST.

THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.

Our illustration represents the arrival of the Empress at Brest. Her yacht reached Portsmouth on Monday, and Her Majesty spent nearly two hours there, but her presence was known only to a very few persons. The Imperial yacht Reine Hortense reached Spithead earlier than was anticipated, having made the run from Havre in eight hours, and as the Royal visitor was not expected to arrive at Osborne until three o'clock, the Empress, attended by a distinguished suite, landed at the South-sea pier. A telegram was forwarded from "the Countess Reinhardt (under which name the Empress was travelling) to the Emperor of the French," announcing the safe arrival of the yacht and the freedom of the passage from sea-sickness, and a telegram was also forwarded to Osborne. The Empress spent some time on the pier, and afterwards walked on the Esplanade, and witnessed the movements of some of the troops, who were going through a series of evolutions on Southsea-common. She then proceeded to the Southsea Pier Hotel, where luncheon was served, and afterwards returned to the pier, whence she was conveyed in a launch to the Reine Hortense. After the re-embarkation the yacht steamed slowly through the fleet at Spithead, which though many of the ships had left, still presented an imposing appearance. After staying two days with the Queen at Osborne, the Empress left for Brest, where she safely arrived, visiting that ancient and loyal town again in the evening in the yacht Reine Hortense for Cherbourg, but the yacht was compelled to put back into Brest on account of the bad weather.

BEGGARS.

Is it a sign of progress when beggars become proud and difficult to propitiate? Here, in Paris, no one can beg in the streets without having previously received a sort of certificate of good conduct or exposed rational reasons—such as a missing limb—for gaining a livelihood, often a comfortable one, from the easily-roused charity of the passers-by; but even the best of systems have their weak places, and through these many hands are stretched which certainly have no right to any badge of merit. A woman crossing the boulevards turned pityingly towards a poor miserable creature and gave him a sou. "Ah, ma petite dame," answered the succoured one, "I hope you do not expect any change, for I have none."

This has been enacted before, but quite a novel story comes from a country house near Paris. One beggar found it convenient to ring at the gate at five o'clock in the morning. The cook told him that if he did not come at seven o'clock her mistress would give him nothing.

"Oh! that is it, is it?" cries the mendicant. "Well, you can tell madame that she can look out for another beggar; but as for me, I shall never put foot in her house again."

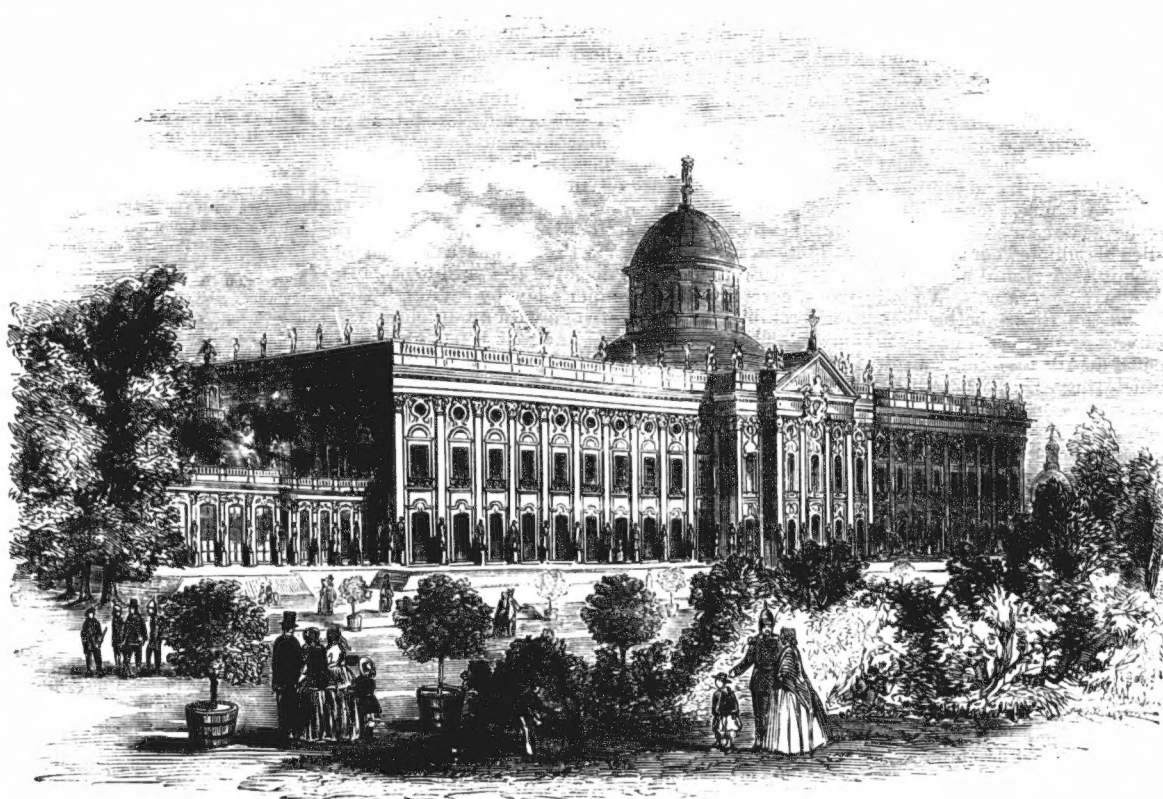
IRISH PRISONS.

We perceive with satisfaction that the starvation diet at present enforced in Irish prisons—a subject to which we called attention two months since—has been brought under the notice of the House of Commons, and that the Secretary for Ireland has promised that measures shall be taken to mitigate that cruel grievance during the parliamentary recess. Admitting the existence of the evil, Lord Naas dwelt—as he was *ex officio* bound to do—on all that could be alleged in excuse for having permitted it to exist so long—viz., that its effect in repressing crime has been signal, that it is a bad thing to pamper prisoners, that the normal diet of the lower classes in Ireland is lower than in England, and that therefore prison diet in Ireland should be lower too. He said he did not believe there had been any great loss of health or life in consequence of the insufficient dietary which now obtains, and which, pitched on a very low scale in 1849, has since been lowered on several occasions until it has become what it is now—viz., eight ounces of meal for breakfast, and fourteen ounces of bread for dinner, the two meals being separated by a fast of eighteen hours; on which regimen Irish prisoners are compelled to perform shot drill, to work on the treadmill, and to submit to the depressing effects of solitary confinement. Fortunately for the interests of the Government in Ireland, the Lord Lieutenant and the Secretary for Ireland are Irishmen, and the magistracy by whom this starvation dietary has been sanctioned and enforced are Irishmen also. Had Irish prisoners been thus dealt with by Saxon officials Lord Derby would never have heard the last of it.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

GENTLEMEN BEAUTIFIED.

We commend to the notice of those gentlemen who are so delighted with the very exaggerated and, in our opinion, most objectionable article on ladies' dress, in the *Saturday Review*, the following, from "Echoes of the Clubs," which shows that it is not only the weaker sex who resort to art to make themselves beautiful:—"Although Reform still continues the order of the day within the House of Commons, last week it was only regarded as a question of secondary interest. The question was the colour of Sir George Bowyer's hair. A fortnight ago Sir George was a stalwart, hearty-looking old gentleman with grey hair. One evening last week a middle-aged man with hair of the fashionable golden colour presented himself at the door of the House of Commons and insisted upon his rights as a member to enter its sacred precincts. The doorkeeper did not know him, the members did not know him. He said he was Sir George Bowyer, and for a few moments he was supposed to be a lunatic. On cross-examination and close investigation it was at length discovered that he really was the man he claimed to be. When he entered the house and sat down his oldest friend did not recognise him. Some members who had heard the discussion at the doors, noised it about that the golden-haired Antinous was the gallant defender of the Papacy; and for some time the laughter and the buzz of conversation prevented Mr. Disraeli—who was speaking—being heard." We detest most heartily the vanity of men who adopt artificial hair, who use cosmetics, or who wear stays. What is allowable in women is simply disgusting with men; but it is still worse for men to

ridicule the use by ladies of their own families of what they admire in those whose manners they have the audacity to say the wives and daughters of the upper ten thousand imitate. The real disgrace is not that ladies wear a particular kind of dress, or use those little accretions which, from the earliest time, the daughters of Eve have more or less adopted, but that those moving in good society should eagerly devour such an article as that to which we allude, attributing to high-born and honourable ladies the most shocking motives, which never entered their imaginations, and which only prove that those who hold them are themselves not of the purest. To the pure all things are pure; and the newspapers are very angry that such articles as that we alluded to, so far from diminishing what the writer considers an evil, increase it in quarters where very likely it is a real one.—*John Bull*.



THE ROYAL PALACE AT BERLIN.—See page 412.

THE PLAGUE.—Special information leaves no doubt that the dreaded plague has really broke out near Keibela, in the pashalik of Bagdad. The disease would appear to have prevailed amongst the Arab tribes inhabiting the marshy district south-east of Kertela during the months of January, February and March.

THE SIGHTS OF LONDON.

THEATRES.

DRURY LANE.—That Rascal Jack—(At Eight) The Great City.
 HAYMARKET.—The Love Chase—To Paris and Back for Five Pounds—The Rifle and How to Use It. Seven.
 ADELPHI.—Used Up—(At Eight) Paul Pry—The Rough Diamond. Seven.
 PRINCESS.—The Day After the Wedding—(At Eight) The Man of Aids—The Clockmaker's Hat. Half-past Seven.
 OLYMPIA.—Our Wife—The Liar—The Cricket—Betty Martin. Seven.
 ST. JAMES'S.—Les Filles de Giboyer. Quarter-past Eight.
 ST. JAMES'S.—Reveries—The Latest Edition of Fra Diavolo. Half-past Seven.
 ROYAL.—Turn Him Out—King O'Neil—The Miller and His Son. Half-past Seven.
 NEW ROYALTY.—Meg's Diversion—(At Half-past Nine) The Latest Edition of Black Eyed Susan—Mrs. White. Half-past Seven.
 ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE AND CIRCUS.—A Comic Ballet—(At Eight) Scenes in the Arena. Quarter to Nine.
 BRITANNIA.—Scarlet Dick; or, The Road and its Riders—Jack o' Lantern; or, The Race-course and the Blue Ribbon of the Turf. Quarter to Seven.

1.—FREE.

British Museum; Chelsea Hospital; Courts of Law and Justice; Docks; Dulwich Gallery; East India Museum, Fife House, Whitehall; Greenwich Hospital; Hampton Court Palace; Houses of Parliament; Kew Botanic Gardens and Pleasure Grounds; Museum of Economic Geology, Jermyn-street; National Gallery; National Portrait Gallery; Patent Museum, adjoining the South Kensington Museum; Soane's Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Society of Arts' Exhibitions of Inventions (in the spring of every year); St. Paul's Cathedral; Westminster Abbey; Westminster Hall; Windsor Castle; Woolwich Dockyard and Repository.

2.—PAYMENT REQUIRED.

Crystal Palace, Sydenham; Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly; Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street; Royal Academy; British Institution; Society of British Artists; Water Colour Societies; Polytechnic Institution, Regent-street; Thames Tunnel; Tussock's Waxwork, Baker-street Bazaar; Zoological Gardens.

3.—BY INTRODUCTION.

Antiquarian Society's Museum, Somerset House; Armourers' Museum, 81, Coleman-street; Asiatic Society's Museum, 5, New Burlington-street; Bank of England Museum (collection of coins); Botanical Society's Gardens and Museum, Regent's-park; College of Surgeons' Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Guildhall Museum (old London antiquities); Linnean Society's Museum, Burlington House; Mint (process of coining), Tower-hill; Naval Museum, South Kensington; Royal Institution Museum, Albemarle-street; Trinity House Museum, Tower-hill; United Service Museum, Scotland-yard; Woolwich Arsenal.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

(All letters to be addressed to the Editor, 13, Catherine-street, Strand.)

The Illustrated Weekly News.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1867.

(REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.)

THE QUEEN'S BOOK.

THE life of Prince Albert just given to the world by the Queen, and written under her immediate superintendence, shows how dear Her Majesty's lamented consort was to her; and how truly estimable was his character. Unfortunately there was some little prejudice against the Prince when he first came to this country, but, as people began to know him, that wore off, and the public forgot that he was a foreigner, so careful was he to show that he was an Englishman in heart and really loved his adopted country, which every one is ready to admit. The sorrow of the Queen for the loss of her illustrious husband has found expression in many touching acts of devotion to his memory, but this book is the most touching of them all. There are many shallow readers who will, no doubt, peruse the book, and gossip over it, and make themselves superficially acquainted with its contents. But to that infinitely larger class, of every rank and condition of life, who are able to admire, even if they cannot always realise in their own conduct, that which is noble and elevating, and absolutely pure and spotless in the human character, this frank and complete revelation of the life of the Prince Consort down to the period of his marriage, will be at once a study and an example to those whom he called his adopted countrymen. There is nothing fulsome about this record of a good man's life. Neither are the facts exaggerated. We fail to discover any desire to make the Prince better than he was. He is not sanctified by these memoirs, but he is made to stand out in bold relief, a manly, straightforward, honest, well-meaning, Britain-loving English gentleman, for that he soon became English in tone and feeling no one can deny, who has the slightest knowledge of his life. Those who have pursued the Queen into her retirement with their rude advice, who have sought to deny to her that freedom of action which is the right of the poorest woman in these realms, would do well to read these pages. They then might discover that if ever widow was justified in the indulgence of protracted grief, in feeling that life henceforth must be to her a blank, Her Majesty is in the position of such a widow. The Queen admits that at eighteen she sadly felt the want of a husband to guide and support her. She feels thankful that none of her daughters are exposed to the danger which menaced herself. In this confession lies the secret of those early marriages which have taken place in her own family, and which, so far as the world knows, have been a source of unalloyed happiness to her children. That she was most fortunate and happy in her own choice of a husband we have not only her own touching testimony to prove, but other evidences of a rich and ample kind, and gathered from a multitude of sources, the authenticity of which cannot be called in question. The life of the Prince Consort really began with

his marriage to Queen Victoria. From his birth upwards he knew nothing of adventure, and but little of the world. He may be said never to have known his mother, for she was separated from her husband when he was only five years of age, and died at the age of thirty-two, without ever again seeing her children. His grandmother, the Dowager Duchess of Coburg, made up for the absence of direct maternal care, which arose from no indiscretion on his mother's part; and he was afterwards transferred to the tutelage of Herr Florschütz. While the Prince was in Germany, the Queen corresponded constantly with him; and she says that "the letters she then received from the Prince are the greatest treasures now in her possession." "During this time," she adds, "precedents were searched for to see what the Prince's household should consist of; and, unfortunately, the one commonly referred to was that of Prince George of Denmark, the very stupid and insignificant husband of Queen Anne. He was a peer, and also for some time Lord High Admiral of England, but seems never to have played anything but a very subordinate part." "What a noble contrast to the acceptance of these offices by Prince George of Denmark is afforded by the refusal of our Prince to accept the command of the army when pressed upon him many years afterwards by no less a man than the great Duke of Wellington! It has already been mentioned that he had determined, even before his marriage, to accept no English title that should be offered to him. He was known only as Prince Albert till very many years later, when, a more correct estimate being formed of his position, and it becoming more generally understood how completely he was identified with every act of the Queen's, it was thought advisable that he should assume the title of Prince Consort." The naturalization of the Prince, the formation of his household, the rank he was to hold, and the income that was to be settled on him, were all important points for discussion; "nor were the last two arranged without considerable difficulty, and the occurrence of circumstances productive of much annoyance. As to the matter of precedence, it was proposed that, as the husband of the Queen, he should take rank above the Princes of the blood. The consent of the Royal family to this arrangement was sought, and "after a slight demur on the part of the Duke of Sussex, who spoke in the first instance of the necessity of his considering 'the rights and interests of the family,' and 'consulting others,' both he and the Duke of Cambridge assented." The choice of the Prince's household seems also to have been a matter of great concern. The Prince himself had very clear notions of what he desired, "I should wish particularly," he said, "that the selection should be made without regard to politics; for if I am really to keep myself free from all parties, my people must not belong exclusively to one side. Above all, these appointments should not be mere 'party rewards,' but they should possess other recommendations besides those of party. Let them be either of very high rank, or very rich or very clever, or persons who have performed important services for England. It is very necessary that they should be chosen from both sides—the same number of Whigs as of Tories; and above all do I wish they should be well-educated men and of high character, who, as I have already said, shall have already distinguished themselves in their several positions, whether it be in the army or navy or in the scientific world." The Queen mentions that the applications for situations in the Prince's household were very numerous; nor, she adds, were the arrangements which were made altogether such as they should have been, and the Prince was at the time a good deal annoyed on the subject. When on the 16th of January Her Majesty opened Parliament in person, it was known that the proposed marriage would be announced from the throne; and great was the crowd to cheer her as she passed. The announcement was made, and a loyal address in answer to the Queen's speech was moved by the Duke of Somerset. Unfortunately, it had not been declared that the Prince was a Protestant, and this omission was reprehended in both Houses. The Duke of Wellington said there was much anxiety on the subject, and moved to insert the word "Protestant" in the address before the word "Prince." Lord Melbourne answered that all the world knew already that the Prince was a Protestant; and Lord Brougham also declared the word to be superfluous, correcting the Premier's law by saying, "There is no prohibition as to marriage with a Catholic. It is only attended with a penalty, and that penalty is merely the forfeiture of the Crown." The Duke's amendment was agreed to.

How the Prince comported himself when he became the husband of our Queen; how he left cabals and intrigues to those who loved the atmosphere of faction; how he won Lord Melbourne's respect and confidence in State affairs; how, while always avowing his own Liberal predilections, he refused to be either Whig or Tory; how he endeavoured to surround the Queen with those who had rendered their country service or who were in too elevated a position to play the courtier for mean or ignoble ends; how he kept himself pure, and serene, and high-minded, amid the temptations and luxuries of a Court—these are aspects of his character and conduct to which too much justice could not be done. In a less restricted sphere of action he would have developed the most kingly qualities, the highest faculties of a ruler. As the husband of Queen Victoria, he showed how much better it is to be good than great, and yet how indissolubly true greatness is linked with a perfect life. His memory, illuminated by these mementoes of a pious affection, and exalted by the work which in his short life he actually accomplished, will have a place in history which will excite the admiration of our most distant posterity.

PUBLIC OPINION.

LAW OFFICERS.

THE most industrious and expeditious of men cannot be in two places at once, or work all day and all night, or read more than a certain number of briefs, or thoroughly examine and form a trustworthy opinion on more than a certain number of questions. If the law officers took no business at all except Government business, their time would be fully occupied, and when they are obliged in addition to conduct an immense private practice besides their task becomes literally overwhelming, and a great deal of it is either left altogether undone or is done by obscure and irresponsible "devils," whose very names are unknown out of their profession, and are often not very widely known in it. The result of this is that, as a rule, Government is frequently very ill-advised. Take as an illustration the great question of martial law which has occupied so much attention for the last two years. There are two possible views on the subject. Either what was done in Jamaica was justifiable in principle, whether it was or was not justifiable in fact, or else it was utterly and monstrously illegal in principle, even if the facts of the case justified what was done. If the charge of the Lord Chief Justice of England was good law, the Government ought to have been aware of it, and if so they ought either to have impeached Governor Eyre or else to have passed a bill of indemnity on the ground that, though his acts were illegal, his motives were good. If the charge of the Lord Chief Justice was bad law, and if Governor Eyre's conduct was legally justifiable, they surely ought to have supported him. Their conduct is intelligible on no other supposition than that they had no distinct view as to the law of the case on which they were prepared to act. Look again at the question of the Colonial Bishops. The very man who drew the patents upon the construction of which great part of the difficulties of the question arose had to declare that several of their clauses were altogether illegal. Both of these questions, it is true, were intricate and difficult, and lay altogether out of the common routine of the profession, nor could they be properly understood without very much more quiet reflection and inquiry than a man at the head of his profession, and engaged in making a great fortune to support a probable peerage, could possibly be expected to give to them.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

ARMY REFORM.

The opinions expressed by Sir John Pakington and Lord Eliocho on Thursday night represent the two extremes between which the military and official mind oscillates. Lord Eliocho declares that nothing less will serve than the conscription. Sir John Pakington, on the other hand, maintains that what we require is a reserve of old soldiers. The one is all for numbers; the other is all for prolonged drill. Lord Eliocho's demand may be dropped out of view, because at present there is small chance of its being treated by any one as practical. We are at peace, and our declared intention is to remain at peace, and it will be hard to persuade us that we ought to put in force those extraordinary forms of armament which have hitherto been resorted to only in the last extremity of mortal war. With respect to the Government scheme, it should not be forgotten that the method of forming a reserve out of old soldiers has already been tried in this country by Lord Herbert in 1859 with absolute failure. All these petty schemes, these shufflings of extra twopences and special bounties, the complex cuttings of a year here to add it on there, these bribes to militiamen and temptations to regular service men, are the feeblest possible methods of dealing with the problem. But from a Tory Government we can hope for nothing better than feebleness in dealing with any army question. The interests of the ruling class are bound up in the maintenance of the *status quo*. A new Parliament will have to introduce a new system. It will have to strike at the root of ancient prejudices and privileges, to recognise no privilege but that of serving the country, and no reward save that which true merit has won. When this is done the question of army recruiting and of an army reserve will be solved.—*Daily News*.

THE LORDS AND THE REFORM BILL.

Let us ask the Lords to consider seriously what they ought to do and what they can do with respect to the Reform Bill. Lord Ravensworth's proposal to raise the qualification of the lodger franchise from £10 to £20 embodies every possible fault of an amendment. Parliament may refuse to sanction the lodger franchise at all, but it cannot offer the franchise under conditions which make the offer worthless. The Marquis of Clanricarde's proposal that after the passing of the bill no one shall acquire a borough vote in the capacity of a freeman, is one which might well be adopted, but should the Government persist in opposing it it would not be desirable to waste valuable time in pressing it. These two proposals are the only amendments at present announced practically affecting the enfranchising clauses, and it is not probable that many more will be proposed. The enfranchising clauses, in fact, very nearly exhaust this branch of Reform. The position of the Government scheme of redistribution is entirely different. It is confessedly partial and incomplete, and due consideration should be given to all proposals for redistribution. Lord Halifax will have a great opportunity on Monday, if he will prove himself equal to the occasion. The House of Lords and the Government have a great opportunity. They may make the redistribution clauses of the Reform Bill commensurate with the enfranchising clauses, and so compound an Act that shall worthily compare with the great Act of 1832. It may be asked whether the House of Commons will assent to an enlargement and revision of the redistribution scheme they have approved. We believe they will. When the Government first laid their redistribution clauses on the table, they had to guard against the opposition of members whose seats were in danger. This opposition has been overcome. The unhappy victims of Reform are reconciled to their fate, or perhaps have learnt to hope that in the general scramble which must follow the adoption of the bill their neighbours and not themselves will be sacrificed. Whatever be the reason, it is certain they have ceased to dream of defeating the bill. The Government is thus secure from the formidable dangers which threatened them earlier in the session, and if they be ambitious of making their Act as perfect as possible they will gladly accept the help of the Lords in extending its provisions.—*Times*.

THE THRONE OF GREECE.

It would be ridiculous to affirm that the odds are greatly in favour of a long Danish dynasty at Athens. A fatality seems to attach to all these mushroom monarchies. The Mexico empire was an enormous experiment, egregiously disastrous. But Europe itself is sufficiently full of examples. Think of the bran new crowns ordered from Imperial goldsmiths and enriched by Imperial jewellers for the first Napoleon. Of the whole galaxy not a glimmer remains. Every now and then a Prince is put up, sits for a time, and is rejected. Greece has had three revolutions and two kingdoms in little more than thirty years. The Danubian Principalities, in less than fifty years, have undergone more changes than it is essential to remember, and are moulding themselves into a free, liberal, and enlightened State. Egypt is rapidly becoming once more a monarchy; the hereditary principle, in the Viceregal line, has been established, and what more is required, in an Oriental sense, for the recognition of an absolute right? However, the Grecian throne seems the hollowest of them all, notwithstanding that the Greeks, who cannot make their own territory safe from an anarchy of outlaws, perpetually proclaim themselves intent upon rectifications and enlargements of frontier.—*Herald*.

THE UNIVERSITIES TESTS BILL.

It is monstrous that, owing to the startling apathy of Churchmen, the onerous duty of rejecting anti-Church propositions should be so constantly relegated to the House of Lords. And yet this is so. "Liberalism," upon which so many have depended—not from any belief in its intrinsic value, but on account of Mr. Gladstone's connexion with it—is found to be exceedingly intrusive, energetic, persistent in all its destructive action, and a bitter enemy of the Christian instinct, and of Christian legislation. Even those clerics who, through circumstances, have been compelled to range themselves on its side, are half ashamed of the company they are obliged to keep, and do not by any means feel comfortable as the prospects of the future are slowly unfolded before them. Had Churchmen rallied round the Conservative party with one fifth of the energy with which they have sent up the incense of their adulation at the shrine of Mr. Gladstone, there would have been a more compact band of supporters in the House of Commons than it is now possible to get together. And such bills as that so eloquently recommended by Mr. Coleridge would have been certainly rejected before reaching the Upper House.—*John Bull*.

THE ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.

It is generally allowed, even by those who urge a warlike policy, that the Abyssinian expedition will be most difficult. This ought not to deter a nation when the course of duty and honour is plain before it; but it should at least inspire great unwillingness to commence hostilities, and the utmost caution in settling the plan of the campaign. From the coast of the Red Sea, one of the hottest regions of the globe, an army must march through a hilly country, without roads, and said to be scantily supplied with water, to a point far in the interior. The excellent commissariat and transport service of India will, indeed, be taxed to the utmost on such an enterprise. Nothing will be lost by allowing the Government to prosecute its inquiries, and by abstaining from future discussion until they are completed. They will not, we trust, rush into this enterprise without much better promise of a favourable issue than is yet before us.—*Times*.

A NEW CEMENT.—M. Sorel last week communicated to the Academy of Sciences a new cement, being a basic hydrated oxychloride of magnesium. It may be obtained by slacking magnesia with a solution of chloride of magnesium in a more or less concentrated state. The denser the solution the harder it becomes on drying. This magnesian cement is the whitest and hardest of all those known to this day, and it can be moulded like plaster, in which case the cast acquires the hardness of marble. It will take any colour, and has been used by the inventor for mosaics, imitations of ivory, billiard-balls, &c. The new cement possesses the agglutinative property in the highest degree, so that solid masses may be made with it at a very low cost by mixing it up on a large scale with substances of little value. One part of magnesia may be incorporated with upwards of twenty parts of sand, limestone, and other inert substances, so as to form hard blocks; while lime and other cements will hardly admit of the incorporation of two or three times their weight of extraneous matter. By means of these artificial blocks, building may easily be carried on in places where materials for the purpose are scarce. All that is required is simply to convey a quantity of magnesia and chloride of magnesium to the spot, if there be none to be had there, and then to mix them up with sand, pebbles, or any other matter of the kind close at hand; blocks can be made of any shape, and imitating hewn stones. This magnesian cement may be obtained at a very low cost, especially if the magnesia be extracted from the motherley of salt-works, either by M. Balard's process, whereby magnesia and hydrochloric acid are obtained at the same time, or else by decomposing the ley, which always contains a large proportion of chloride of magnesium, by means of quicklime, which, by double decomposition, yields magnesia and chloride of lime containing a certain quantity of chloride of magnesium, and which, with the addition of various other cheap substances, may be used for whitewashing.—*Galignani*.

ANIMAL POISONS.—In some experiments on the poison of the cobra di capella, which George B. Halford, M.D., Professor of Anatomy in the University of Melbourne, has been lately engaged in, he has discovered that when a person is mortally bitten by the cobra, molecules of living "germinal" matter are thrown into the blood and speedily grow into cells. These cells multiply so rapidly that in a few hours millions upon millions are produced at the expense of the oxygen absorbed into the blood during respiration; and hence the gradual decrease and ultimate extinction of combustion and chemical change in every other part of the body, followed by coldness, sleepiness, insensibility, slow breathing, and death. The cells which thus render in so short a time the blood unfit to support life, as described by the professor, are circular in diameter, on the average of one-seventeenth of an inch. They contain a nearly round nucleus of one or two thousand eight-hundredth of an inch in breadth, which when further magnified is seen to contain other still more minute spherules of living "germinal" matter. In addition to this, the application of magnifying reveals a minute coloured spot at some part of the circumference of the cell. This, besides its size, serves to distinguish it from the white bus or lymph-corpuscle. The professor adds to his account of the action of this powerful poison that he has many reasons for believing that the *matrices morbi* of cholera is a nearly allied animal poison, and that if this, on further examination, should prove to be the case, we may hope to know something of the poisons of hydrophobia, small-pox, scarlet fever, and, indeed, of all zymotic diseases.

A WANT OF RESPECT FOR THE PEERAGE.—The debates in the Lords last week were relieved by a comic interlude, in which the Marquis of Westmeath sustained the principal character, the other *dramatis personæ* being a Mr. Harper, connected with an Orange Society, and a reporter for the press, name unknown. The action of the piece, as narrated by the Marquis, took place within the precincts of their lordships' house, the time being the other day, during the debate upon the Transubstantiation Bill. Upon that occasion Lord Westmeath made certain remarks, which, as he complained at the time, had been only partially reported by the papers. It appeared that before their delivery his ally, Mr. Harper, who had been in ambush in the Strangers' Gallery, emerged therefrom, and, watching a couple of reporters going into their room, managed to overhear one say to the other, "That d— old idiot, Westmeath, has a long notice on the paper, but I'll take care not to give one word of what he says." The faithful Harper subsequently tracked his victim to the gallery, and heard him—at least he believes the speaker was the same man—say to a sympathising friend, "What a pity it is that there is no one to send that confounded old idiot to a lunatic asylum." The latter expression of opinion seems to have been made after the Marquis's speech. Both remarks were reported to his lordship by his wily instrument, and now formed the subject of complaint, and calling attention to them as a breach of privilege. Their lordships, however, were unkind enough to receive his story with a roar of laughter, which was renewed when he went on to enter more fully into the grievance. Lord Malmesbury tried to stop him by declaring the subject unworthy the dignity of the house, an opinion which was much applauded; but Lord Westmeath declared he would not be "shouted down," as it was an important matter to him; not that he cared, however, for such ribald nonsense! He was proceeding in this way when Lord Malmesbury again interposed, and declared such conduct to be extraordinary, considering that there was no motion before the house. So, yielding to these remonstrances and loud cries of "Order" from all quarters, Lord Westmeath at last subsided into private life.

THE EARLY YEARS OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE CONSORT.*

THIS volume has been eagerly expected by the reading public. It was originally compiled for private circulation, but doubts arose as to whether, through some channel or other, it would not reach the public in a garbled form, and it was thought expedient to publish it "in substantially the same form as that in which it was first printed for private circulation." In giving her consent to the publication the Queen has been actuated by the belief—

"That the free and unreserved expression which the volume contains of her own feelings, as well as of those of the Prince, is such as, if made public (however unusual such publicity may be) will command the entire sympathy of every one whose sympathy or good opinion is to be desired."

In that belief Her Majesty will assuredly not be disappointed. This is a book which defies criticism. It is a sacred record of the affections. Her Majesty throws aside the mantle of her grandeur, and comes among us as a woman with a true heart. Her condescension will endear her to her subjects, who while they read will love the more.

Again and again the infancy of the brothers is returned to with loving interest—

"Little Alberchen, with his large blue eyes and dimpled cheeks, is bewitching, forward, and quick as a weasel. Ernest is not nearly so pretty, only his intelligent brown eyes are very fine; but he is tall, active, and clever for his age." And again: "Albert is very handsome, but too slight for a boy; lively, very funny, all good nature, and full of mischief."

Then come various extracts from the journal of the boy Prince, and regular schoolboy's letters. Here is one, a model:—

"1825.—Dear Papa,—The day before yesterday we went to see the Hof-Marshall, and yesterday the colonel. Our flunchees have such a fine house to live in! Think of me very often, and bring me a doll that nods its head.—Your little ALBERT."

This part of the volume contains some extracts from a journal kept by the young Prince, as well as some letters of his to his father, written before he was six years old. For example:—

"26th January.— . . . We recited, and I cried because I could not say my repetition, for I had not paid attention. . . . I was not allowed to play after dinner, because I had cried whilst repeating. Then Parthenai came, and we talked French with him. The little boy Mensel came and brought us some black chalk, with which we drew beautiful pictures."

"11th February, 1825.— . . . I was to recite something, but I did not wish to do so: that was not right, naughty!"

"8th April.— . . . After dinner we went to Ketschendorf, and from Ketschendorf we went to Seidmannsdorf. On the road I cried. From Seidmannsdorf we went home by the Eckartsberg, . . . Then we had a French lesson."

"9th April.— . . . I got up well and happy; afterwards I had a fight with my brother. . . . After dinner we went to the play. It was Wallenstein's "Lager," and they carried out a monk."

"10th April.— . . . I had another fight with my brother: that was not right."

As the years of his boyhood pass by the character of the Prince, as we knew him, begins more clearly to develop itself, and his tutor, Herr Floraschutz, furnishes a memoir of this transitive time, which is replete with interest. Here is a brief portraiture:—

"In his early youth Prince Albert was very shy, and he had long to struggle against this feeling. He disliked visits from strangers, and at their approach would run to the furthest corner of the room, and cover his face with his hands; nor was it possible to make him look up or speak a word. If his doing so was insisted upon he resented to the utmost, screaming violently. On one occasion, at a child's fancy ball given by the Duchess, Prince Albert, then in his fifth year, was brought down and a little girl was selected as his partner; but when it came to his turn to move on, after the other dancers, nothing could induce him to stir, and his loud screams were heard echoing through the rooms. . . . Even with his brother the Prince showed, at this time, rather too strong a will of his own, and this disposition came out at times even in later years. Surpassing his brother in thoughtful earnestness, in calm reflection and self-command, and evincing, at the same time, more prudence in action, it was only natural that his will should prevail, and when compliance with it was not voluntarily yielded, he was sometimes disposed to have recourse to compulsion. The distinguishing characteristics of the Prince's disposition were his winning cheerfulness and his endearing amiability. His disposition was always to take a cheerful view of life, and to see its best side. He was fond of fun and practical jokes, and on one occasion drew down a scolding from his father by getting his instructor in chemistry to fill a number of small glass vessels, about the size of a pea, with sulphuretted hydrogen, which he threw about the floor of the pit and boxes of the theatre, to the great annoyance and discomfiture of the audience, at whose confusion he was highly delighted."

Prince Albert came to London on his first visit in 1836. Her Majesty's first impressions are thus recorded:—

"The Prince was at that time much shorter than his brother, already very handsome, but very stout, which he entirely grew out of afterwards. He was most amiable, natural, unaffected, and merry—full of interest in everything, playing on the piano with the Princess, his cousin—drawing; in short, constantly occupied. He always paid the greatest attention to all he saw, and the Queen remembers well how intently he listened to the sermon preached in St. Paul's, where he and his father and brother accompanied the Duchess of Kent and the Princess there on the occasion of the service attended by the children of the different charity schools. It is indeed rare to see a Prince not yet seventeen years of age bestowing such earnest attention on a sermon."

In October, 1839, the Prince visited England. We learn from the volume that there had been some communication on the question of a marriage, and that on the part of the Queen a proposal had been made for a delay of two or three years. We now learn that—

"The Prince has since told her that he came over in 1839 with the intention of telling her that if she could not then make up her mind she must understand that he could not now wait for a decision, as he had done at a former period when this marriage was first talked about. The only excuse the Queen can make for herself is in the fact that the sudden change from the secluded life at Kensington to the independence of her position as Queen Regnant, at the age of eighteen, put all ideas of marriage out of her mind, which she now most bitterly repents. A worse school for a young girl, or one more detrimental to all natural feelings and affections, cannot well be imagined than the position of a Queen at eighteen, without experience, and without a husband to guide and support her. This the Queen can state from painful experience, and she thanks God that none of her dear daughters are exposed to such danger."

It was on the 9th of October that the Prince arrived at Windsor, and on the 15th the Queen, having previously communicated with Lord Melbourne, offered him her hand. The circumstances are thus narrated:—

"On the 16th there was an important interruption to the ordinary routine of the day. The Queen had told Lord Melbourne the day before that she had made up her mind to the marriage, at

which he expressed great satisfaction, and he said to her, as Her Majesty states in her journal, 'I think it will be very well received; for I hear that there is an anxiety now that it should be, and I am very glad of it;' adding, in quite a paternal tone, 'You will be much more comfortable; for a woman cannot stand alone for any time, in whatever position she may be.' Can we wonder that the Queen, recalling those circumstances, should exclaim, 'Alas, alas! the poor Queen now stands in that painful position!'

An intimation was accordingly given to the Prince, through Baron Alvensleben, Master of the Horse to the Duke of Coburg, and long attached to his family, who had accompanied the Prince to England, that the Queen wished to speak to him the next day.

"On that day, the 16th, the Prince had been out hunting early with his brother, but returned at twelve, and half an hour afterwards obeyed the Queen's summons to her room, where he found her alone. After a few minutes' conversation on other subjects the Queen told him why she had sent for him; and we can well understand any little hesitation and delicacy she may have felt in doing so; for the Queen's position, making it imperative that any proposal of marriage should come first from her, must necessarily appear a painful one to those who, deriving their ideas on this subject from the practice of private life, are wont to look upon it as the privilege and happiness of a woman to have her hand sought in marriage, instead of having to offer it herself."

On the same day the Queen announced her intention to the King of the Belgians in the following letter:—

"Windsor Castle, Oct. 15, 1839.

"My dearest Uncle.—This letter will, I am sure, give you great pleasure, for you have always shown and taken so warm an interest in all that concerns me. My mind is quite made up, and I told Albert this morning of it. The warm affection he showed me on learning this gave me great pleasure. He seems perfect, and I think that I have the prospect of very great happiness before me. I love him more than I can say, and shall do everything in my power to render this sacrifice (for such in my opinion it is) as small as I can. He seems to have great tact, a very necessary thing in his position. These last few days have passed like a dream to me, and I am so much bewildered by it all that I hardly know how to write; but I do feel very happy. It is absolutely necessary that this determination of mine should be known to no one but yourself and to Uncle Ernest until after the meeting of Parliament, as it would be considered otherwise neglectful on my part not to have assembled Parliament at once to inform them of it."

"Lord Melbourne, whom I have of course consulted about the whole affair, quite approves my choice, and expresses great satisfaction at this event, which he thinks in every way highly desirable."

"Lord Melbourne has acted in this business, as he has always done towards me, with the greatest kindness and affection. We also think it better, and Albert quite approves of it, that we should be married very soon after Parliament meets, about the beginning of February."

"Pray, dearest uncle, forward these two letters to Uncle Ernest, to whom I beg you will enjoin strict secrecy, and explain these details, which I have not time to do, and to faithful Stockmar. I think you might tell Louise of it, but none of her family."

"I wish to keep the dear young gentleman here till the end of next month. Ernest's sincere pleasure gives me great delight. He does so adore dearest Albert.—Ever, dearest uncle, your devoted niece, V. R."

A little later the Prince wrote to his grandmother as follows:—

"The subject which has occupied us so much of late is at last settled. The Queen sent for me alone to her room a few days ago, and declared to me in a genuine outburst of love and affection (*Egüsse von Herzlichkeit und Liebe*), that I had gained her whole heart, and would make her intensely happy (*überglücklich*) if I would make her the sacrifice of sharing her life with her, for she said she looked on it as a sacrifice; the only thing which troubled her was that she did not think she was worthy of me. The joyous openness of manner in which she told me this quite enchanted me, and I was quite carried away by it. She is really most good and amiable, and I am quite sure Heaven has not given me into evil hands, and that we shall be happy together."

"Since that moment Victoria does whatever she fancies I should wish or like, and we talk together a great deal about our future life, which she promises me to make as happy as possible. Oh, the future! does it not bring with it the moment when I shall have to take leave of my dear, dear home, and of you! I cannot think of that without deep melancholy taking possession of me. It was on the 15th of October that Victoria made me this declaration, and I have hitherto shrunk from telling you; but how does delay make it better!"

The remainder of the volume relates to the preliminary arrangements for the marriage, the household arrangements, the domestic and political relations of the Prince; and we are told that there were persons who desired to keep the Prince aloof from all connection with public business, and—

"Not only so, but who would have denied him even in the domestic circle that authority which in private families properly belongs to the husband, and without which, it may be added, there cannot be true comfort or happiness in domestic life."

The Prince himself writes in May, 1840, to Prince Lowenstein:—

"The difficulty in filling my place with the proper dignity is that I am only the husband, and not the master in the house."

The editor remarks:—

"Fortunately, however, for the country, and still more fortunately for the happiness of the Royal couple themselves, things did not long remain in this condition. Thanks to the firmness, but, at the same time, gentleness with which the Prince insisted on filling his proper position as head of the family, thanks also to the clear judgment and right feeling of the Queen, as well as to her singularly honest and straightforward nature, but thanks more than all to the mutual love and perfect confidence which bound the Queen and Prince to each other, it was impossible to keep up any separation or difference of interests or duties between them. To those who would urge upon the Queen that, as Sovereign, she must be the head of the house and family, as well as of the State, and that her husband was after all but one of her subjects, Her Majesty would reply, that she had solemnly engaged at the altar to 'obey' as well as to 'love and honour,' and this sacred obligation she could consent neither to limit nor refine away."

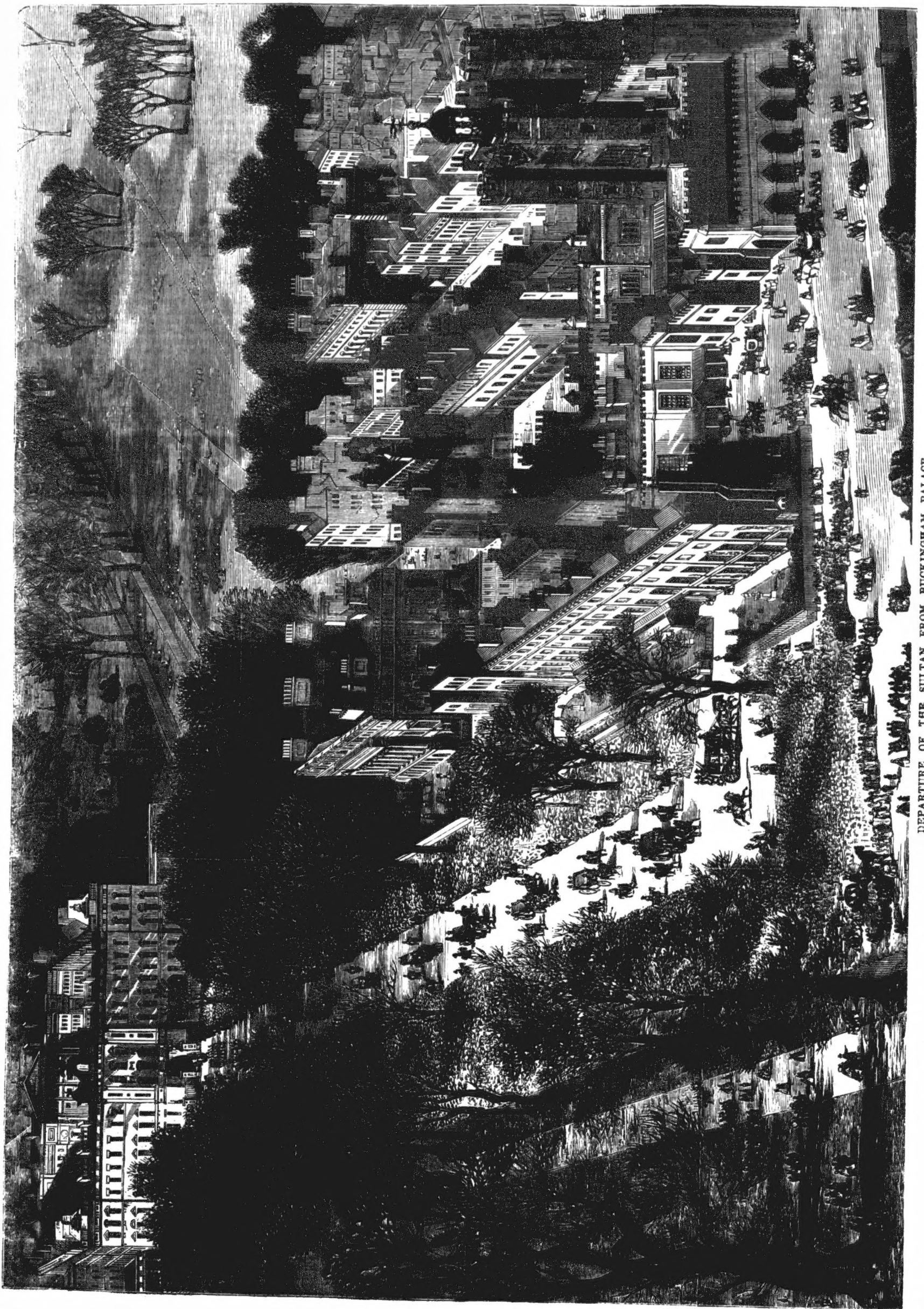
"From the first the Prince made it a special object to remain thoroughly impartial in politics, and to persuade the Queen to hold the same position, Lord Melbourne himself on more than one occasion supporting him."

The Prince ardently loved the country, and the Queen soon acquired his taste. In 1840 Her Majesty writes:—

"I told Albert that formerly I was too happy to go to London and wretched to leave it, and now, since the blessed hour of my marriage, and still more since the summer, I dislike and am unhappy to leave the country, and could be content and happy never to go to town. This pleased him. The solid pleasures of a peaceful quiet, yet merry life in the country, with my inestimable husband and friend, my all in all, are far more durable than the amusements of London, though we don't despise or dislike these sometimes."

We can find no space for further extracts, although the volume abounds in passages full of interest.

* "The Early Years of his Royal Highness the Prince Consort." Compiled under the direction of Her Majesty the Queen, by Lieut.-Gen. the Hon. C. Grey-Smith, Elder, and Co. 1867.



DEPARTURE OF THE SULTAN FROM BUCKINGHAM PALACE.



RETURN OF THE VICEROY.

Dead Acre:

A CHAIN OF EVIDENCE.

BY CHARLES H. ROSS.

Part the Third.

THE STRUGGLE AT LAST.

CHAPTER XIII.—THE PLOT WORKING.

SINCE first the sun began to shine it never shone more brightly than on the morning fixed for the sea excursion in which Jeffcoat and his wife were to take part. Never was there such a crowd upon the sands. Those who awoke first and, looking out of window, saw the sun gilding the ripples in the water, awakened their slumbering companions almost angrily, and bade them excitedly to arise and come forth into the open air. All the trim nursemaids in spotless white caps came trooping out with their young charges, and the everlasting game of sand pie set in with unusual severity. The very weakest of invalids ventured forth, well wrapped up, in their bath chairs, and sat in a row, basking in the sun, and wagging their jaws feebly like so many tortoises. All the world was out, indeed, except perhaps, that poor dear young invalid lady and her devoted husband, for he was far too unselfish to seek his pleasure abroad whilst she lay moaning on her weary bed, and more than one pair of bright eyes were turned pityingly towards the window of the sick room, as their owner tripped lightly past on her way to the sea-shore.

The devoted bridegroom was personally known to scarcely a soul in the hotel, but the fame of his goodness had gone far and wide, coupled with a belief that he was extraordinarily handsome, a fact which, curiously enough, made him none the less interesting. Ruth, who had made the invalid several visits as we have seen, had not been so fortunate as to see the husband, he having retired, when the chambermaid announced a visitor, to an inner room, had he not happened to chance to be in some other part of the hotel at the time she made the call.

The recollection of the person with the beard, whom she had seen that evening on the sands, had long since faded from her mind, and nothing had ever occurred which in any way connected that circumstance with the invalid and her husband. Jeffcoat certainly had met him again; but on that occasion nothing remarkable took place, and the idea of the likeness had been abandoned.

Jack, therefore, had neglected to make any inquiries respecting him. In a casual way, however, he learnt from the landlord that the invalid's husband's bill had been running for two or three weeks; and when the sick lady, with some pretty little excuse, relating to the name of a song Ruth had been singing at the open window, induced her to pay a visit, Jack was inclined to think that they might want to borrow money, and with his old careless good nature, half made up his mind before he was asked to lend it.

Upon this sunny morning, a gay party could not be conceived than that which embarked in the pleasure boat with Jack and Ruth; and Jane peeping cautiously from behind the window curtain, ground her teeth with rage as she gazed after them and listened to the sound of their laughter floating towards her on the soft breeze.

The very day it was agreed on all hands for a sail. Just enough wind to fill the sails, scarcely enough to rock the boat. A bright sun and a clear blue sky. There was not one among the weather-wise and blue-breeched lolling on the shore who had a word to say against the expedition; no one who predicted the coming of a gale and the gathering of the storm which was to burst forth ere night.

Just as the boat was being pushed off, however, a circumstance occurred which threw a temporary gloom over the party. At the

very moment that Jack placed his foot upon the boat's side, his name was called loudly from the shore, and a breathless waiter was seen rushing towards the sea, waving a paper in his hand. Under these exciting circumstance, the boat was stopped, and a moment afterwards the paper was in Jack's hand. But when he had opened it and read, he looked round upon the curious faces gazing towards him, and laughed.

It was nothing very serious, he said, only his partner Mr. Hurst, who had long promised a visit, had telegraphed to say he was at length upon the road, and would reach the town in a couple of hours' time.

"The only awkward part of the business is that I must stay behind and join you later in the day."

There were loud murmurs at this decision, and the eyes of one lady in the company filled with foolish tears. But there was no help for it either. Jeffcoat could not allow his friend, whose visit could only be of the briefest, and had been made entirely out of compliment to the day, to come and find no one to welcome him. After all it would only make a difference of three hours, and he could bring Hurst with him, reaching the place where the party were to picnic by the aid of the railway, a much more expeditious mode of transit. In the end it was thus settled, and the boat sailed, leaving Jeffcoat on the shore. In this manner he and Ruth parted, little dreaming how they would meet again.

As he came slowly back to the hotel with a sad face, Jane looked down upon him from the window with trembling lips and deathlike cheeks. There was the man whom she had loved so fondly, who had treated her so basely. Ah, if Ruth had died long ago, what might have happened, she thought, and if she died now, who could say?

Time wearing on, Mr. Hurst had come, and Jeffcoat and he had gone away together. As the evening approached rumours of a storm were afloat, and anxious faces were turned towards the sea, wondering when the pleasure party would return.

As night set in the wind arose and roared among the rocks, and the sea dashed furiously in upon the creaking piles, and wrenched and battered the rotten wood-work of the pier. At this time, Jeffcoat and his partner returned, having reached the appointed place, but found the party had set sail again, and he now came back expecting to find Ruth waiting for him, but no tidings of the pleasure-boat had yet reached the shore.

Up in the sick-room little note was taken of the rising wind.

Now and again a pale face approached the window and large eyes gazed out upon the sea, but they were waiting only for the coming of night, until it should be dark enough to begin work unheeded. The sound of excited voices penetrated into the room as the fishermen turned past on their way to the beach. Gay sat moodily smoking, the girl, now and again, talked eagerly in a low tone, but as the time drew near, fell into a wearied silence.

Every moment the gale was increasing. It was not to be a furious storm, but rather one of those bursts of wild weather which happen in midsummer, leaving the sea coast strewn by stranded boats. The wind came onward with a low hoarse roar across the combing and breaking crests of the waves, and howled among the rocks. The driving brine caught up in pelting showers from the wave tops was dashed into the faces of those crowding down to the beach. Rough voices, scarcely audible in the din, called to one another among the rocks, and dark forms dimly discernable scrambled up and down upon wet wood-work, hauling lustily at straining ropes and creaking timber.

Occasionally during a momentary lull a woman's voice was heard in shrill lamentation, and other voices offering consolation. Such of the pleasure seekers who had ventured out for curiosity's sake, looked on admiringly at the waves' rough play, and shouted with delight to see them come tumbling in and breaking upon the rugged shore.

This, however, was before the news had spread that a pleasure-party of ladies and gentlemen were out at sea and might be lost, but presently the friends of the absentees were seen in a distracted state hurrying to and fro in the streets nearest the shore, now quite inaccessible, asking a thousand eager, useless questions,

making a thousand mad suggestions, helpless and hopeless one moment, the next in wild joy at some false tidings, and then again plunged into the depths of despair.

Mixed with these panic-stricken ones were some others rather more self-contained in their fear and grief, having an infinite reliance in the seamanship of the husbands, fathers, and lovers whose lives were at the mercy of the wind and water, which buoyed up their sinking hearts somewhat, though less and less as the time wore on and they returned not. In the warm shelter of the hotels, safely out of the reach of the storm's fury, there was the usual feasting and festivals in progress, for there were lots of folks who had not friends at sea, and whose anxiety for the welfare of strangers was not great enough to spoil their appetites. Therefore, here in the hotel of the Golden Crown the howling of the wind and the roaring of the sea were drowned in a clatter of crockery and clashing of steel, and the scurry of waiters' feet and the hum of many voices.

We cannot all be weeping and gnashing of teeth at the same moment. The day you have set apart to die on is the day I have fixed for my wedding, and I mean to have the bells rung loudly. You cannot reasonably expect me to feel sad on your account, and even if I postpone the nuptials till to-morrow some other mar joy would be dying then to spoil the fun. Every thirty years I have read there is a whole generation swept off the earth's face, a billion souls merged into eternity. All the loves, and strifes, and small ambitions gone for ever, and yet the world keeps going round, and you and I, whose time is several hours off, feast and make merry in our false security. What would you have us do else?

Mine host and hostess of the Golden Crown, and the waiters and guests there were too hard at work to bother much about the storm and the missing pleasure boat. It was the busiest hour of the twenty-four this first after twilight, and well chosen by Gay and his wife for the carrying out of their scheme. At last the time having arrived to put it into execution, Gay opened the window wide and looked out towards the sea.

"It's very lucky the weather turned out so," he said. "If I make any noise they won't hear me down below. It's so dark, though. I can't see if the other window's open. I shall be sold if it's shut because of the rain. There's no opening these brutal French sashes from the outside."

"It was not shut half an hour ago, because I looked, and no one has been upstairs."

"Every other night they've stood wide open long after this, and fastened back, but I thought this bad weather the servants might have been up to close them."

"No one has been up. And you watched Jeffcoat off by the train?"

"Yes; he's all right enough. I daresay they'll be delayed, too, if they come back by water this rough weather. If they were all drowned together it would be the finest thing for us, but we must not calculate on that chance. They've come back, sure enough, and the other with them."

"What other?"

"Hurst—the man I told you of; the partner. He's turned up as well to make our risk a little more dangerous. If there was no other reason for our cutting short our stay here his coming would make me anxious to clear out."

"Why, what can he do to you?"

"Not much, I suppose. It's a long time since. I played him some pranks once in a time. He's a sort of relation of mine. I was once in a little fix, and borrowed his name. He found it out and paid up, but swore he'd turn up ugly if I did it again. However, I did do it. I thought I could keep it quite quiet, and I did, but I had to pay for it pretty heavily. You know how I got it back at last."

She was not listening to what he said. Leaning from the case-mat, she was gazing earnestly down upon a sort of terrace below, which was divided by a heavy wall and balustrade from the street.

"There's not a soul about now. You'd better waste no more time."

He rose without a word and approached the window. Then peered eagerly forth.

"All right," he said, after a pause. "Give me the stuff."

"This is it."

"You can't keep watch because they must see you on the landing, but there's no need of it. Keep the door shut, that's all you've got to do—I shan't be a moment. She said she left the physic out. Didn't she? It is not likely it would be locked up, I shall find it on the mantel-piece, and it won't take me a moment to do what I have to do."

As he spoke he let himself down out of the window, and began to clamber cautiously along a broad wooden ledge running round the front of the house, steadying himself by the green venetian shutters laid back against the wall, and by the open windows he passed on the way. It was so dark that almost in a moment his form was hidden from the sight of his companion, but listening intently she fancied she heard his feet rubbing against the wall as he scrambled into a distant room. He had been gone no time yet, but, in her impatience, it seemed like an age while she waited for him. What was he doing now? Was it all right? Had anything happened? Would he never come back?

This violent anxiety, however, subsided instead of increased, as the time wore on and reason came to her aid. There was no danger of interruption as Jeffcoat was away. It would not take him many moments to find the medical bottle and pour in the poison. That done it mattered little what happened. It was not his safety, but the success of the enterprise that made her anxious, and it was sure to be successful, and then—

With her head resting on her hands the girl looked out towards the sea, and watched the huge masses of water rolling in, foaming upon the beach. Her eyes sparkled with excitement as she listened to the noisy strife of the elements. The unbridled storm without seemed to find an echo in the raging agitation in her heart. A presentiment that the coming crisis in her life was close at hand deepened and intensified each moment, and her working brain seemed to attune the angry voices of the hurricane into a sort of fearful wild and terrible music, which was to serve as overture to the coming tragedy.

But he ought to have done his work by now. It was growing dangerous if he was so long about it. Was he coming? There were footsteps too upon the landing—footsteps, and a voice, the tones of which were familiar to her. Jeffcoat was passing on his way to his room!

She leant out of the window in a wild fright, and called as low as she could, "Make haste! make haste!" but the roaring of the wind drowned her voice. Then she ran back to the door and half opened it. The chambermaid was coming that way, and she closed and locked it hastily, then returned to the window.

While she had been gone, short as the time was the wind had fallen. There was a momentary lull, and she could hear no sounds except the far-off murmur of voices on the beach.

"Make haste! take care! make haste!" she cried again; but there was no reply.

She listened intently. There were a score of strange noises made by the storm that confused her. More than once she fancied that she heard a cry for help, and the sounds of a struggle, but then the silence following made her think that she had been mistaken. Had Jeffcoat gone into the room yet? He must have done so. What then had happened?

A shot!

She could not be mistaken; it was the report of a pistol that she had heard. They had met then, and there had been a struggle. Was either wounded, and which?

A sickening feeling crept over her. She durst not own to herself what was her wish.

That morning she had seen her husband busily examining the priming of a small pocket pistol that he usually took with him during their travels when going abroad at night, and she had seen him loading this before he put it down again in a drawer of a small table by his bed, where he usually kept it at night.

She had seen him at the drawer again just before he had sallied forth upon this expedition, and supposed that he had taken the pistol with him. Now, in a fever of anxiety, she went to look if it had been moved. It was there still. He then had not fired.

Perhaps he had had time to complete his errand before Jeffcoat returned, and now was dead. With a hand resting upon the edge of the open drawer, she stood as motionless as a statue, listening.

How was it that nothing happened, and nobody seemed to have heard the explosion? The moments slowly ebbed away as she waited in an agony of suspense. Presently she heard a footstep in the passage without. It must be, she felt, Jeffcoat who had recognized the other—had, perhaps, wrung from him the whole secret, and was coming to confront her. Where was she to hide?

With the horror of the threatened meeting strong upon her, she sprang towards the door and flung herself against it, but, too late, for some one was forcing it open.

The struggle was but momentary. She was thrust back, and a man's figure stood before her in the darkened room. She shrank back, trembling, and with a wild hope that he might not know her, and that all yet might go well.

"What are you doing?" said Gay, in a hoarse whisper. "We've no time to lose; we must clear out of this. He tried to fire on me; we had a struggle, and I think he's shot. Do you hear? move quickly; we'd better run for it."

But she made no answer, and he pushed past her and groped in the darkness for some object of which he was in search. But now there were footstep and voices upon the landing, and loud cries of alarm. Gay still at his search spoke, without looking round.

"We can easily get downstairs while the confusion is on. Are you ready to go? I just want these papers. But we've plenty of time if you make haste."

He was dragging open a portmanteau and pulling out its contents, making a good deal of noise. In the middle of this occupation he paused to listen to the voices without, and half turned. The room was empty behind.

(To be continued.)

BAD BLOOD—BAD BLOOD.—When the health begins to fail, and symptoms of bodily decline are apparent, "THE BLOOD PURIFIER"—OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S SASSAPARILLA—alone can arrest the downward progress. It gives tone to the feeble pulse, flesh to the emaciated body, and strength and fresh blood to the declining system. Testimonials on each bottle from General Wm. Gilbert, of the Indian Army; the Hon. the Dean of Lismore; ordered also by the Apothecaries' Hall, London. Sold by all Druggists. **CAUTION.**—Get the red and blue wrappers, with the old Doctor's head in Centre. None others are genuine.—[ADVT.]

PARIS EXHIBITION.—Gentlemen, before starting for the Continent, should go to JONES & Co's, 73, Long Acre, and purchase one of their Half-Guinea Hats (the Hamilton), new shape, which, for style and durability cannot be equalled. Jones & Co. Manufacturers, 73, Long Acre.—[ADVT.]

EPILEPSY OR FITS.—A sure cure for this distressing complaint is now made known in a Treatise (of 48 pages) on Foreign and Native Herbal Preparations, published by Dr. O. Phelps Brown. The prescription was discovered by him in such a providential manner that he cannot conscientiously refuse to make it known, as it has cured everybody who has used it for Fits, never having failed in a single case. The ingredients may be obtained from any chemist. Sent free to all on receipt of their name and address, by Dr. O. Phelps Brown, No. 2, King-street, Covent Garden, London.—[ADVT.]

LITERATURE.

"Austria a Constitutional State: a Short Sketch of the Rise, Progress, and Development of Constitutional Life in the Austrian Dominions." London: Dulau and Co., 37, Soho-square.

THE author of this brochure is evidently a man thoroughly competent to speak of the subject upon which he writes. He has studied the condition of Austria, past and present, and hazards predictions as to its future which must commend themselves to every thoughtful person. He says: "The remodelling of the map of Europe, it was predicted, would ensue upon the rise of the Second Empire, and we have seen part of the prophecy accomplished in Italy and Germany, though perhaps not exactly with the same colouring which was first given to their newly-projected maps by our Gallic friends. Those events were, however, only the forerunners of the great territorial changes which every far-sighted politician is convinced must take place during the next few years. The formation of an Italian Kingdom claiming already the rank of a first-rate Power; the rapid consolidation of the great German Empire under the banner of the Hohenzollern family; the galloping consumption which threatens the near extinction of the once powerful and formidable dominion of the Osmanlis, are enough in themselves to change the face of Europe at no distant time."

Again: "It is a curious fact, and one which shows the uncertainty of the status quo in the world, that one of the oldest monarchies in Europe has undergone not only territorial changes to a very great extent, but also changes in its government, its policy, and its resources, without drawing the attention of the general public in any considerable degree to those events."

The author eulogises Von Beust, and we think with reason. If Cavour was the apostle of progress in Italy, Von Beust is the pioneer of better things in the kingdom of the Hapsburgs. Of the empire of to-day he says:—

"Slowly only, but perceptibly, labouring under innumerable difficulties, and almost stifled by the violent fermentation of antagonistic tendencies, do the principles of Constitutionalism and the ideas of Liberalism work their way onward step by step, conquering the soil inch by inch; on the one hand conciliating the contraries in views and principles, on the other hand, gaining the passions of antagonistic nationalities. But though the question which divided the two halves of the Empire is settled in a satisfactory manner, and the relations of the lands of the Hungarian Crown to the rest of the Empire regulated, although the Hungarian Diet and the Central Assembly at Vienna are working side by side with the minor provincial assemblies, much tact and good sense will be required by the Hungarian and Austrian statesmen to prevent the outbreak of those national jealousies which proved so fatal to Hungary and the Empire. Austrian Constitutionalism cannot be measured by other existing Constitutions. She requires an especially Austrian Constitution, adapted to the historical and national peculiarities of the several Crown lands, allowing the greatest possible amount of self-government, and yet securing the organic union of all the countries on the basis of the fundamental State Laws."

"Seldom, if ever, in history has a more difficult task devolved on a monarch or a statesman to bring the commenced edifice of the State to completion, to make it inhabitable and to embellish it himself according to the requirements and conceptions of refined taste. No State on earth, not even the United States of America, comprise within themselves so many diverging interests as this polyglot Austria. Fortunately the Emperor is now surrounded by advisers with broad views and conciliatory dispositions, who will earnestly endeavour with him to organize the Constitution and the Administration on the principle of the greatest possible liberty for the individual, without encroaching on the freedom and safety of all."

We have quoted enough to prove that our author's pamphlet is well worthy of perusal, and it is not wrong in having for its watch-cry the traditional epithet of "Felix Austria!"

"A Visit to some American Schools and Colleges." By Sophia Jex Blake. (Maximilian & Co.)

WITH respect to the advantages of the collegiate association of the sexes, the Oberlin professors were unanimous. Their opinions respecting the relative powers of their male and female pupils may be gathered from the following testimony:—

"In speaking of the relative abilities of the male and female students, I found more difference of opinion. The professor of chemistry and physiology thought that the girls played their part in the recitations about as well as the young men, but did not consider them so well qualified for the lengthened consideration of a scientific subject. The professor of Greek told me that he was unable to see much difference between the students of the two sexes: 'but for the difference in sound of voice, I should find it hard, or impossible, with my eyes shut, to tell one from the other. If I am to find a distinction, I may perhaps say that, speaking generally, the ladies have more intuitive quickness in construing, and earlier acquire elegance in composition; while the gentlemen seem more able to seize on points touching the philosophy of the language. As regards power of attention and application I have never remarked any difference, and the work done is usually about equal.' The professor of Biblical literature, who had the management of the Theological School, had had much less to do with female than with male students. He said that he had had, however, quite as good work done by young women as by young men, and that in rhetorical exercises and composition he often found them to excel the young men in delicacy and elegance of expression. On the whole, however, he inclined to the belief that the balance of mental strength lay on the side of the young men. In answer to a question of mine, this Professor said that they had never received applications from women for systematic training for the ministry, though one or two female graduates had afterwards become preachers; but that, if such applications were made, the Faculty would certainly not refuse to admit them, but would, in each case, as at present, leave the responsibility of electing such a calling to the individual conscience. The Professor of Mathematics spoke, perhaps, more strongly than any in favour of the equality of the male and female intellect. He had been a Professor at Hillsdale College before coming to Oberlin, and gave us letters of introduction to that place, where the same system of education is pursued, though with certain differences. On the point in question he said, 'I have found the work done by ladies to be fully equal to that of the gentlemen—fully; and it has more than once occurred that the best scholar in my class was a lady. Ladies are generally the quickest at recitation, and will repeat long problems more accurately than most of the young men. I do not know that they have any counterbalancing defect. As to the strength and power of application, I know that the advantage is said to lie with the men, but I have not found it so.'

"The Sea-side Register." Published by Messrs. Orban and Dickens, 27, Walbrook, London.

AT this season of the year we cannot do better than draw attention to the "Sea-side Register." The very name makes us long to abandon the cares of literature for the pleasure which Horace described by the phrase, "desipere in loco," and where can we find more charming "loca" than on our coasts. Brighton, Scarborough, Eastbourne, and Margate, will send us invitations through this "Register," and we are by no means sure that we shall not accept one of them before many weeks have rolled over our editorial head. The "Register" gives a list of furnished and unfurnished residences to let, and must be invaluable to every paterfamilias of a migratory disposition, and where will we find one who is not now that summer has come at last?

FUN OF THE WEEK.

PUNCH.

MERMAIDS' TOILETS IN '67.—Scene, the sea-side.—Blanche, in bathing machine, to darlings in the water: "I say, some of you, call after Aunt! She has taken my shignon, and left me her horrid black one!"

ECCLESIASTICAL.—The Council of Trent.—"Drink Bass's bitter."

LETTER PERFECT.—Cockney Pupil: "Yes, sir, goin' down to the Gov'nour's Country-'Ouse—'Ay-makin' an' that goin' on—'"—Tutor: "Ah, well, see and make a few H's as well, Mr. Pankridge, while you're about it!"

BETWEEN THE DANCES.—Said Edwin to Angelina, as they sat in the conservatory, "Dearest, why is England unlike this sweet retreat? Nay, then, do not pout. The reason is, in England there are many shires, and here there are but fa-chais." (Yowls.)

DRINK FOR LAWYERS.—The Wool-sack.

ON MR. G. A. SIMCOX'S TRAGEDY.

A. Prometheus is unbound!

B. The deuce!

Readers, your course is plain,

Pray ye to Simcox and to Zeus,

To tie him up again.

FUN.

MINIS-TEAR-IAL.—However lightly Government may treat the claims of woman to the rights of the franchise, it is an indisputable fact that when that important event—an appeal to the country—occurs, a thoroughly feminine trait is displayed in the Ministerial character—they invariably get up "a good cry." We have no doubt that the Right Hon. Gentleman, the ex-Home Secretary, will fully corroborate our assertion.

FOR BUILDING PURPOSES.—We read in a contemporary that it is the custom in Nevada to throw silver bricks on the stage when a favourite actress plays. We suppose a mistake has arisen in the translation of brick-a-brac, though doubtless few actresses would object to laying the foundation of their fame and fortune with the building materials in question.

BROACHING A QUEER SUBJECT.—This is curious:—"Lost, on the streets of Glasgow, yesterday, a Silver-mounted Pebble Brooch. By returning it to Mr. S. Druggist, Road, they will be rewarded." The streets, it appears, are to be rewarded if "they" return the lost property. But we fear the offer, like the brooch, will be lost on them.

THE FETE-AL MISTAKE.—We believe there is no truth in the report that next year the organizers of the Dramatic Fete will supplement the Music Hall attractions by a "Judge and Jury" booth. A rumour that they would be proceeded against under Lord Campbell's Act for the sale of certain photographs is also without foundation. But we do believe that there will be no Dramatic Fete at all next year.

A HINT FROM DR. CUMMING TO LADIES ABOUT TO MARRY.—Bee-master.

VERY LIKELY!—Look here, what we've found in the papers:—"A respectable Family want Place, Rent, and Firing free, in return for looking after it.—Address." We know a great many respectable families who have been looking after something of the sort for a long time. We fancy when the advertisers have looked after it till they have found it, they will probably get it, but not before, however much they may wish.

SIMILIA SIMILIBUS CURANTUR.—This principle is now accepted by the most eminent professors in the French school of medicine. When the health of the Emperor is all fishy, they invariably prescribe Vichy waters for its restoration.

THE ROCK AHEAD.—What a young husband foresees when the cradle is brought home.

FIREWORKS.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* says, with reference to the rumoured mission of Prince Gortschakoff, on affairs in Ireland, that the report originally appeared in a new weekly journal called "Echoes of the Clubs," and "is merely a squib." We think our contemporary would have done better to call it "a cracker."

TOMAHAWK.

GOOD THING TO BE SAID BY THOSE IT MAY CONCERN.—Why don't I go to the Exposition Universelle?—Because I was one of the first to expose the St. Pancras Guardians. That was for my "the Great Parish Exhibition!"

POOR MARQUIS OF WESTMEATH! He has complained of a breach of privilege in the House of Lords, because one of the reporters alluded to the noble Marquis in a loud tone of voice as "an old idiot." The reporter ought to have known that it is not allowed to call any noble lord by his name in the House.

MAKING DUCKS AND DRAKES OF THE MIRROR OF TRUTH.—Can not an untrue piece-rumour be called a "Canard aux olives?"

THERE IS (we believe) no truth in the report that Mr. Whalley intends proposing a suspension of Lord Campbell's Act to allow of the sale of that filthy production, "The Confessional Unmasked." There is no reason why the honourable member should take such a step, for at the present moment the book is hawked about the streets of London with the most delightful impunity.

SERIOUS JOKES TO BE USED ONLY ON SUNDAYS.—An admirer of schnapps and pine-apple, full-flavoured, describes the "Battle of Life" as a Rum-and-Water-loo.—The music of a dream, snoring.—It may be as well to mention that "Webs on the Way" is not the production of Mrs. Cobbe, and nobody ever thought it was. It is true that lady's name has been mentioned in connection with "Broken Lights," but a few pounds of damaged candles, more or less, is of little consequence, except where exhibitions of clerical millinery occur; and we are quite satisfied that one who is disposed to make a clean sweep of existing abuses, is the last person to tolerate cobwebs.—The Star most influenced by the Moon, the Poet-aster.—What a measure of human depravity we have, and what a very bad set we must be, since we cannot refuse to admit, that the men of the turf are our betters.

JUDY.

TOUCHING SIMPLICITY.—Rustic: Well, Zur, I cum again, to thank'er for saving my Lad from drowning this morning at the risk of your life, and—Gentleman: Oh! that will do, my man—that will do. Rustic: Then maybe yur Honour aint got Half-a-crown to help a poor man to drink yur' ealth.

A SOVEREIGN REMEDY AGAINST FITS.—Purchase a twenty-shilling coat at a ready made clothes shop. So long as you wear it there will be no fear of your having a fit, or any symptoms of one.

A MAN is inclined to swear when he finds holes in his stockings. Our advice is, say nothing, but—damn 'em!

PUFF, the pastry-cook, says the best dance is a bun-dance.

THERE is an old saying that "a fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind." But that is not always the case. When we find a fellow feeling for our watch, we are by no means inclined to be wondrous kind.

THE MOST UNIVERSAL TAX.—The tax on one's patience.

THE DRAWING ROOM.

FASHIONS.

Not only are black bodices ornamented with gold flowers and leaves, extremely fashionable, but gold ornaments are now used extensively on black bodices of all descriptions. A nice material is black cashmere, which should be studded over with gold beads. Any variety of beads, such as silver, crystal, or amber, could be used, but none are so effective as the gold variety on a black ground.

We saw a pretty bonnet lately, the foundation of which was covered with three bouillonnés of white tulle studded with white satin beads, and separated by rouleaux of white satin. The back of the bonnet was bound with blue satin, and white satin gretots fell over the crown. The blue strings were carried across the front, and white blades fell over the tulle bouillonnés. A blue rosette was fastened at the right side of the bonnet, and a blue bow with long ends fell at the left side.

We may mention another bonnet intended to be worn at a breakfast or other morning fete, as it partakes somewhat of the style of a cap, and looks equally well with untied strings. The material is white tulle, and the trimmings consist of maize satin ribbon studded with amber beads. Long amber drops are sewn round the edge of the bonnet; a large yellow rose is fastened at the side and surrounded with black blonde; the strings are satin bordered with black, and studded with beads. This bonnet is intended for a frame.

Morning Toilette.—A blue mohair dress, with paletot and petticoat to match; the trimming is formed with blue silk, a shade darker than the mohair, and cut on the cross. The skirt is looped up with long rashes of mohair, pointed at the ends, corded with blue silk, and fastened down with large blue silk buttons. White tulle bonnet ornamented with corn flowers.

Boating Costume.—The skirt is composed of white alpaca, braided and embroidered with crimson silk, so as to represent ropes and anchors. The upper part of the loose bodice, which is square, is made of white alpaca, and the lower part of crimson flannel. A black straw sailor's hat, trimmed with crimson ribbon.

White dresses are now very general; they are trimmed with either Valenciennes or guipure, lined with coloured ribbon, and a ladder of small silk bows is usually sewn the entire length of the back of the skirt, as well as on the back of the small square jacket which accompanies the skirt.

White muslin dresses embroidered with colours have been brought into fashion by the beautiful Countess Castiglione. They are ornamented with wreaths of foliage, and when silk is used for the embroidery they are very costly. I have seen an exquisite white muslin dress in this style, which was to be worn over a white silk slip. The skirt was embroidered above the hem, and on the bodice, with a wreath of laurel leaves, small bouquets of purple suchias crossing the graceful green garland at regular intervals. When fine wool is used instead of silk for the embroidery, these dresses are much less costly and still exceedingly pretty, and they can be washed like linen, which is a great advantage. Corn-flowers and violets are favourite patterns, and for slight mourning black stars and mauve pansies are general.

Muslin dresses are likewise embroidered this season in a great variety of Indian patterns, and this has most likely given the idea of the new jardinière jackets which are to be fashionable for the forthcoming autumn. They are made of black silk, and are embroidered round the circular cape with a wreath of flowers in silks of various hues. The two ends at the back are likewise worked with similar flowers, only on a smaller scale; sometimes a fringe to match the embroidery is added round the paletot.

The second costume is made of sea-green silk; the under-skirt is trimmed with a rouleau of satin of a darker shade than the silk, headed by a row of bows to match, sewn at regular intervals all round the hem. The upper skirt is cut out in Greek scollops, and is piped with satin. The bodice is low and square, and black guipure guimpe is worn underneath. The sleeves are à la Juive, and black lace ones are made to fit the arm. The satin sash is trimmed at the ends with black lace.

With these costumes several ladies are wearing shoes with ornamental sandals and high heels. I cannot say that this pretty fashion is readily adopted—a fact to be regretted, as shoes are much more comfortable than boots for summer wear.

There is quite as much variety in hats this season as in bonnets and dresses. For the most part the hats are extremely small, and are trimmed with black lace and gold leaves and gold fruit; wreaths of Bismarck leaves, and bands of either peacock's or pomegranate feathers. Many of them have lappets of black lace, studded with jet beads, tied at the back. Veils and strings of black lace, embroidered in gold, have lately been introduced to wear with black tulle bonnets, ornamented with gold sprays.

Small toilets are now occupying the attention of our principal dressmakers. Short costumes are the rage, and there is much variety both in their cut and ornamentation, showing plainly that the spirit of invention is still rife among us. Sometimes these short costumes are made with two skirts, and sometimes with only one, the trimming being laid on to simulate an upper skirt. Occasionally the upper skirt is looped up at one side, either with a gimp agrafe, a bow of ribbon, or a leaf cut from the same piece of silk as the dress and piped with satin a shade darker than the silk. I will describe a few short costumes which the renowned Worth has lately made, so as to give my readers some idea of this most fashionable toilette of the present day.

The first is made of pale blue silk, and is an order from Mme. Ristori. The under skirt is trimmed with cross-cut bands of blue silk braided with white tulle. The upper skirt is looped up high at each side, à la Pompadour, on the left side with a square sash end, which commences at the waist, and on the right side with a second sash end half the length of the other; both ends terminate with a Greek tassel. The small square paletot matches the skirt; a sash is tied at the back, and, terminating with tassels, completes the toilette.—*The Queen.*

SEAWEEDS.

MANY beautiful specimens of seaweeds may be picked up on the sands, at low tide, on the Kentish shore, near the well-known and popular watering places of Ramsgate, Margate, and Broadstairs, and it is from these that most of my specimens come. The coast of Hampshire, opposite the Needler, is also very favourable to this pursuit, for it is wild and stormy, and after storms the seaweed is thrown up along the coast in great quantity and variety. And this is the way in which I set about my work. When I have collected about as much seaweed as I think can be carefully prepared at a time, I take it home and throw it all into a large tub or basin together; I then take separate bits, put them into another basin, and cleanse them of the particles of sand and stray weeds which adhere to them. When this is done, I throw one piece at a time into the third basin, and watch it spread out in all its beauty and delicacy. I then take a piece of paper, and pass it underneath the seaweed and the surface of the water. When I have my prize in the centre of the piece of paper, I arrange it a little with a long knitting needle or a pin, and when it is to my satisfaction I raise the paper carefully with my hand from underneath, and behold the seaweed as it is in its natural state in the water. I then put it out in the sun to dry. When the seaweed is quite dry on the paper, I very gently and carefully take it off by inserting a fine instrument underneath, such as a long needle, and peeling it off as it were, beginning from the centre, and working on towards the edges.—*The Queen.*

THE GARDEN.

HARDY FLOWER GARDEN.

MIGNONETTE should now be sown in pots and be placed in a cool frame or other position to be protected from excessive rains. Sown now in 32-sized pots it will come in useful for early winter flowering. Single plants might also be taken carefully up from any outer border and placed singly in small pots to be grown on by means of successive pottings into specimen standards. Choose good stiff yellow loam in which to grow them; crock the pots sparingly yet efficiently, placing a layer of partly decomposed leaf-mould over the crock. The soil should be firmly rammed, taking care not to sow the seed too deeply. Sow also Nemophila of sorts, and insignia especially, to form plants for blooming in pots in the autumn, should such be needed. Prune back and train into vacant positions wistarias, honeysuckles, climbing roses, &c., laying in all the young wood possible upon these latter, for the purpose of increasing their flowering capabilities. Place cuttings of choice verbenas in store pots, in order that they may well establish themselves before winter. Take up ranunculuses from open borders as soon as the portions above ground have become well ripened off, and have turned yellow. Layer pinks, carnations, cloves, &c., as opportunity offers. Performing the operation thus early will afford them ample time in which to become well rooted, and form fresh divisional shoots preparatory to forming efficient plants to transplant by-and-by. Remove all superfluous suckers from around the base of violet plants intended for flowering only, in whatever stage, by cutting them away bodily. This applies especially to the Neapolitan variety. Should the weather prove dry, run the hoe carefully around these latter where the operation just named has been performed; and give a slight mulching with well-sifted leaf-mould.

HARDY FRUIT GARDEN.

Look sharply after all kinds of insects, earwigs, &c., which are habitually so destructive to wall-fruit. Much mischief might be saved by making an active onslaught thus early, before they have commenced their depredations. I know of no better trap for them than the hollow stalks of the broad bean; into these, placed abundantly among the branches, they readily crawl, and may be quickly dislodged by blowing them into a pot, or other vessel, containing water. By a little extra scrutiny wasps' nests might now be detected. If they are to be sought after at all, which they should be, it is better to do it now than when the fruit is ripe, and liable to be injured by their inmates. A little gas-tar, poured into the hole from which the wasps ascend, will effectually stop all further trouble from them. Reduce the number and length of all fore-right shoots upon pear trees, whether trained to walls or grown as espaliers, in order that light and air may be more freely admitted to the flower buds forming at their base than otherwise would be the case, and in order that more strength may also be afforded them to duly perfect themselves. I do not advise their entire removal thus early, for should a fine mild autumn ensue, it is just possible, were they so treated, that they might be induced to grow afresh, which certainly would tend to diminish stored-up resources, besides neutralising those very flower buds which we are anxious duly to establish. Check, therefore, secondary growths which may form after this date by pinching them as soon as perceived. In continuing to attach the younger growths upon peach, nectarine, and apricot trees to the walls neatly, do not fail to afford to each shoot, and indeed to every leaf, room for the full exposure of its whole surface to light, &c., in order that the sap stored away by the trees for next spring's use, may be duly elaborated. Do not therefore lay in more young shoots than are likely to be required for active use next season. Instead of fastening all young shoots by means of ordinary shreds and nails, very small sticks, some 6 or 8 inches in length, held in their places by means of the main branches, are very handy for the purpose of holding secondary fruiting spray loosely to the wall. Strawberries, which have been duly thinned, should receive without delay a good mulching of short manure; old mushroom beds contain the best materials in a very handy state for this purpose.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Finish planting out into permanent quarters all "winter stuff," such as celery, broccoli, &c. Sow forthwith seeds of early horn carrot. This latter, where convenient, should be sown upon a warm or otherwise sheltered south border. Make also another sowing of cabbages, lettuces, endive, and radishes. Prepare the necessary space for winter spinach—an important crop where a large demand for good vegetables exists. Choose for it a light, open, dry piece of ground. Make also another chance sowing of dwarf French beans in an open situation, and of Sangster's No. 1 or Champion of Paris peas. These may yet afford a good late crop. Take up shallots, garlic, and potatoe onions; lay them in a dry, airy situation to duly ripen off, previous to storing them away. Transplant brown cos lettuce, should you have a sowing sufficiently large for that purpose, towards the end of the week, as these may come in useful for lifting in the autumn, as fine large stuff, fit, with frame protection, for immediate use. Late sown turnips must be encouraged to grow by watering, &c., should the weather prove too dry for the seeds to germinate freely. Cut, dry, and store away the necessary supply of herbs. This should be done before they are in flower.—*W. E. in the Gardener's Chronicle.*

SLUG AND WIREWORM.

If an accurate sum total could be made of all the damage and loss occasioned by these two pests to British agriculture, it would be a frightful amount. The moist season of 1866, produced slugs in abundance, and now another showery season threatens still further to multiply their number. They swarm in our rare ground and clovers, therefore we should take steps for protecting our future wheat crops. As soon as any clovers are folded off, I shall night-time them—that is, sow four bushels of fresh-slaked lime at night, and if the first dose does not kill them shall repeat the operation—taking care to sow the lime against the wind to prevent them hearing you advance. I found this a certain remedy in the early spring. The lantern will show you that the lime falling on the slug at once turns him up and kills him. It is of no use liming by daylight, for then they are all safely ensconced under ground, having feasted on your crops during the night. I presume they have a sense of danger, for they either die or depart after the night-sowing of lime. As to wireworm, they are also easily got rid of. Sow six bushels of salt per acre broadcast on the surface, and they will either die or depart, I cannot say which. It is a certain cure. In some cases of very light land it may be necessary to repeat the dose; but I have always found that quantity sufficient—wireworms never infest heavy lands. As soon as you miss a few blades of wheat or barley, sow the salt at once, or you will be too late, for the plants only show that their stem has been destroyed after a day or two. The early spring is generally the time of danger and mischief. Some of our light Tippee lands are especially subject to the wireworm pest, but I never fear them now. Salt is a certain cure; so is rape-cake—or the two combined.—*J. J. Meech.*

THE Agricultural Hall, decorated, illuminated, and indeed transformed, as it has been by the Messrs. J. Defries and Sons, into a "fair palace," attracts a large concourse of persons nightly, upwards of 100,000 having visited the building during the past week; and, consequently, arrangements have been made to continue the grand concerts for a limited period. These concerts, under the direction of Mr. F. Kingsbury, have been equally successful.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—The season was brought to a termination on Saturday with M. Gounod's new opera "Romeo e Giulietta," being its seventh performance. The theatre was crowded to excess; the audience were in the best humour; the artists exerted themselves to the utmost—the Romeo and Juliet of the evening, if possible, surpassing themselves—the execution from first to last was most admirable; a more agreeable and satisfying "farewell night," in short, was never given at any theatre, and the only regret felt was that more than half a year should elapse before such another representation could take place. Of course, the performance was signified by an extra amount of enthusiasm, and a special demonstration was made on behalf of the representatives of the Shakespearean lovers, to whom the eminent success of M. Gounod's new work is in a great measure to be attributed.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.—We understand that Mr. German Reed has decided on bringing his season to a close on Monday, the 5th August, when there will be a benefit for himself, Mrs. Reed, and Mr. John Parry. All who have enjoyed the present splendid entertainment of a "Dream in Venice," got up as it is with elaborate care, and enriched with magnificent scenery and splendid dresses, must wish success to the manager on the occasion, and we trust a crowded audience will testify to his enterprise and liberality. To the "Dream of Venice" (for the 140th time) and "Merry Making," will be added other attractions on the closing night.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND MUSIC HALL (PORTSMOUTH).—This magnificent establishment, which was opened some five years ago, is certainly, in all respects, quite on a par with our first-class music halls in the metropolis, both as regards the ample accommodation provided for the public as also for the first-rate talent appearing nightly. This splendid hall has accommodation for over 2,000 with ease, possesses a stage quite as large as that of the Alhambra, with trapdoors, flies, and all other necessary scenic appliances, and has also the seats arranged as in theatres—viz., as pit, boxes, and gallery; and lastly though by no means least, the whole is brilliantly lighted by chandeliers, supplied by the deservedly renowned Defries. Of course from the locality in which it is situated (Portsmouth), it is hardly necessary to say that it is vastly patronised by sailors, and as we all know what a jovial devil-may-care fellow "jack" ashore is, it must be rather trying to professionals newly arrived from London, where audiences are generally well behaved, to hear a lot of "jolly tars" calling out for a hornpipe or "Black Eyed Susan," just as he has arrived at the most interesting part of his song. But, notwithstanding this we should advise all who may happen to travel that way to spend an hour or two there, for not only will he hear such A professionals as Mr. G. Forde, but he will also have an opportunity of studying "jack ashore." In conclusion we have only to say that the post of director is ably filled by Mr. Howard Harris, for many years connected with the chief music halls in London, and that we hope the worthy proprietor (Mr. Brown) will reap the reward he so well deserves for his spirited catering for the public—viz., success.

ACCIDENT ON THE HIGHLAND RAILWAY.—On Wednesday afternoon the Countess of Breadalbane proceeded north by the train leaving Perth at 4.10. In consequence of the Dunkeld games, the train received such a large accession of passengers at the station that it was necessary to put on an extra engine. The driver of this engine, John Oliver, belonging to Perth, lost his footing while oiling his engine, and fell on the rails, cutting his head severely. The accident was observed by the Countess of Breadalbane, who, on arriving at Aberfeldy station, handed £20 to the guard to be given to Oliver, who, we are happy to learn, is not seriously hurt.—*Edinburgh Courier.*

QUEEN MARY OF HANOVER.—Notwithstanding the precautions which the Prussian authorities had thought necessary to adopt, the departure of Queen Mary of Hanover gave rise to demonstrations from her former subjects. At the station of Alfeld a deputation of young girls threw yellow and white flowers into the Royal carriage. At Göttingen the train was received with shouts of welcome, and was covered with bouquets and wreaths. As far as the frontier her Majesty everywhere met with earnest marks of sympathy.

PRUDENT WOMEN.—Dr. Sherry, of New York, in a letter to the Philadelphia Reporter concerning the present American movement for female physicians, writes that some twenty ladies presented themselves at a surgical clinic and lecture in one of the New York hospitals. The surgeon announced that the subject would be hernia; and, not wishing to shock the delicacy of the fair auditors, he suggested the propriety of their withdrawal. Several hundred young men were present, and he thought it unfitting that the young ladies should remain. They did not retire, but occupied the nearest seat, while eighteen male patients were exhibited, necessarily in a state of nudity. At another hospital lithotomy was to be performed on a man. Eight members of "the little band of true-hearted women just entering the medical profession" appeared to witness it. The surgeon, from motives of delicacy, asked them to retire, and he sat down to await the result. But they moved not. He thereupon announced that, if they did not withdraw, the operation would be postponed, or done privately. Then they left. It is impossible that any gentleman should make such a statement positively, and in a public medical journal without being well assured of the facts; but we are still so far behindhand in England as to receive it with horror, if not with incredulity.—*British Medical Journal.*

THE BISHOP OF CAPE TOWN.—The Bishop of Capetown has arrived in England, and as he stood on Thursday night by the steps of the throne in the House of Lords, we could not but feel that he has no ordinary claims on the Church for sympathy and pecuniary assistance. The battle between truth and falsehood, for the integrity of the Faith, and the authority of Holy Scripture, has been fought out at the Cape; but though the brunt of the battle has fallen on a poor Colonial Church, we should bear in mind that the lion-hearted Bishop of Capetown, who with but scant sympathy on the spot, and with all the disadvantages of his comparative isolation, so bravely maintained the struggle, has in reality been fighting for the whole Church. Let Churchmen prove, by acts as well as words, that they appreciate his zeal and rare devotion.—*John Bull.*

AN ELEGANT COUGH REMEDY.—In our variable climate during the winter months coughs and colds appear the greatest enemies to mankind, and we are pleased to be able to draw the attention of sufferers to "Strange's Celebrated Balsam of Honey," which, as a cough remedy, stands unrivalled. Honey, in the form of a Balsamic preparation, is strongly recommended by the faculty, our medical works, and by Dr. Pereira (late lecturer on medicine to the hospitals).—See *Materia Medica*, vol. ii. page 1854. It will relieve the most irritating cough in a few minutes, and by its mildly stimulating action, gently discharges phlegm from the chest by easy expectoration, and restores the healthy action of the lungs. The amount of suffering at this time of the year is incalculable, and numbers, from the want of an effectual remedy at a low cost, have the germs of consumption laid. Sold by most chemists at 1s. 1d. per bottle, large size 2s. 3d. Prepared by F. Strange, operative chemist, 260, East street, Walworth. Agents: Messrs. Barclay, Farringdon-street; Newberry, St. Paul's; J. Sanger, 60, Oxford-street; and Butler and Crispe, Cheapside.—[ADVT.]



THE EXCURSIONIST—THE CITY OF OXFORD.

CANTERBURY.

AFTER an extraordinary sight-seeing and sensational month in town, London city and West-end fashionables are now taking their annual trip into the country, where we shall follow them with an occasional view of some famous old city, town, castle, or sea-side sketch. This week we give views of Canterbury, Oxford, and Kirkstall Abbey.

The city of Canterbury, the Metropolitan See of England, is in Kent, about fifty-three miles from London. The town was originally enclosed by turretted walls, the remains of which still exist. The Cathedral is a noble pile, and forms a conspicuous object from whatever part of the city it may be viewed. It stands on the site of the Cathedral anciently founded by St. Augustine in connection with the monastery of Christ Church, established by Ethelbert, King of Kent, on his conversion to Christianity by St. Augustine in 597. The oldest part of the present structure dates from 1184. Thomas à Becket was murdered here in front of one of the altars in 1171. The city is of great antiquity, as is proved by many Roman remains.

KIRKSTALL ABBEY.

THIS fine old ruin is situate about three miles from Leeds. It is the remains of a Cistercian abbey, founded in 1152 by Henry de Lacy and given to Cranmer. It covers a space of 445 feet by 340, and belongs to the Earl of Cardigan. The remains are Norman and Early English, now all covered with ivy. It is exceedingly picturesque and will well repay the excursionist for the visit.

OXFORD.

ANOTHER famous old cathedral town is Oxford, celebrated for its University. Its history has been carried back to the most remote ages. John Ross of Warwick (1491), the earliest historian of Oxfordshire, protested that it was built 1009 B.C. by Memphric, King of the Britons, when it was called Caer Memphric, in honour of him, which name was changed to Bellotsitum, and afterwards to Riddoh, the Celtic for a ford for oxen. Alfred the Great resided here and established a mint. In 979 and 1002 Oxford was burned to the ground by the Danes. In 1009 it was again burned by Sweyn, King of Denmark, which was awfully avenged in the general massacre of the Danes on St. Brice's Day, when his sister Gunelda and her husband perished in the massacre. The earliest history of the University is wrapped in obscurity. The *inns* date from the King of Mercia, and are said to be traced back to 727, and the earliest school to the priory of St. Frideswide. The city in olden times was the scene of much bloodshed between the town and university.

AN amateur pedestrian named Collings undertook for a stake of £20 to run over six bridges crossing the Thames within one hour, to commence and finish on the Surrey side of the Thames. The start was made by running over Vauxhall Bridge and back over Westminster, and then Waterloo, Blackfriars, and Southwark Bridges in their order, and Collings finally completed his feat by running over London Bridge into Surrey, and pulled up with seven or eight minutes to spare. The distance actually covered is computed at not less than eight miles.

THE ROYAL PALACE AT BERLIN.

BERLIN owes much to the taste and munificence of its sovereigns. The quarter called the New Town was built by the great Elector, Frederick William, who also planned the Unter den Linden-street, and otherwise greatly enlarged and beautified the city. The succeeding monarchs, especially Frederick I., Frederick the Great, and the late monarch have added many new streets, squares, and suburbs, and have embellished the city with many splendid buildings and monuments. Among the principal of these is the Royal Palace, an illustration of which we give on page 405. This imposing edifice is of vast magnitude. It is sumptuously furnished, and in the White Hall, fitted up a few years since at the cost of £120,000, the Prussian Parliament held its first meeting in 1847. The Museum, begun in 1823 and finished in 1830, is undoubtedly the finest building in the city. The Royal Library is a large, heavy-looking building. The collection of books comprises about 500,000 volumes printed, and upwards of 5,000 MSS. volumes; many of the former, including Luther's Hebrew Bible, being both scarce and valuable. There are several fine old palaces at Berlin, and also the palace of Prince Frederick, the residence of the Princess Royal of England.

ON Monday a match took place in the Serpentine, by the members of the Serpentine Club, for a silver Leander medal as first prize, and a Victoria and Albert medal for the second. J. Stabach, George Parrot, C. Whyte, and D. Jackson started; T. M. Evans, who had also entered, not coming to the scratch. Stabach won a very capital race by two yards only.



THE EXCURSIONIST—VIEW OF CANTERBURY.

THE FENIANS.

MR. JUSTICE KEOGH, when addressing the grand jury at the Kerry Assizes, pointedly referred to a speech of the Solicitor-General at the Special Commission for Limerick, in which Mr. Warren had said that the number of Fenian informers was "too large for him to mention." The very persons who were most violent in denouncing informers, to conceal their own complicity, were, the very next moment, giving information against their accomplices. Judge Keogh also read a portion of an address published in May, in an American newspaper, by Roberts, now the President of the Fenian Brotherhood. It was a letter calling for funds. "Pay money," was always the cry. "No doubt the Fenian brotherhood would thrive if its leaders got money, but he (Judge Keogh) would ask that the description given by Roberts of those who preceded him in office should be noted:—"There is (says Roberts) one consolation to us in this whole matter, that the blood of our countrymen is not on our souls; that we warned them as to the result of their blind obedience to corrupt leaders; and that now, when they are deserted in their misery by those who led them on, we are ready to extend the hand of brotherly love to our misguided though patriotic brethren. I trust to be able to prevent a recurrence of similar mad and disastrous outbreaks, such as lately took place in Ireland." The Solicitor-General, at the close of the judge's charge, complained of the comments of the local press on the trials which were about to take place in Tralee; and Mr. Justice Keogh declared these a gross contempt of court, and said that if they were repeated he would deal with the parties. True bills have been found against Captain Moriarty, the first of the Fenians who attempted to raise an insurrection in Kerry in February last.

A CONVULSION OF NATURE.

THE Rev. Patrick Malone, parish priest of Belmullet, writes to a Dublin paper, giving an account of an extraordinary convulsion of nature which occurred within eleven miles of that town a few nights ago. The "side of a mountain was raised from its bed, and suddenly breaking up into huge fragments, proceeded down the inclined surface, carrying destruction in its course, until it spent its fury in the waters of the Atlantic." The portion of mountain which broke up contained an area of about forty acres, and though the elevation was not more than one foot in fifteen, the great altitude from which the subterranean current descended, accounts, he thinks, for the irresistible force which attended it. Hundreds of large fragments, some of them measuring 2,000 cubic feet, are now, Mr. Malone says, to be seen thrown in on either side and strewn upon the undisturbed plane, without the appearance of water having accompanied them there. His explanation of the phenomenon is that the great drought of the preceding two months created a vacuum between the peat surface and its gravelly substratum. The heavy fall of rain being pressed into the cavity produced the eruption. Several families had a narrow escape of their lives, some persons having been carried forward a distance on the moving and breaking ground. The bog debris is scattered over the crops of several poor men, a road is blocked by the fragments, a dale closed up, and a valley created "where nothing but a mountain appeared before."

THE SULTAN'S VISIT.

THE Sultan was satisfied with his visit to England. So entirely satisfied, indeed, was the Sultan that the French press sees in British courtesy evidence of design, and in the shouts of the people in the streets a far-seeing selfishness. The reception succeeded, and it was worth while the reception should succeed.

ITALY AND ROME.

CAVOUR always meant that the fulfilment of his formula—a free Church in a free State—was to date from the cessation of the temporal power. And in that sense it still holds good. Whenever the temporal power shall be abolished, and the Papacy shall have recovered the primitive independence of its spiritual supremacy, Italy, not only as first and foremost of all Catholic Powers, as the seat and centre of the government of the Church, but as a liberal and enlightened Power and nation, will be under the most inviolable moral obligation to accord the completest liberty to the Church and to the Holy Father, to the utmost limits of his spiritual supremacy, and will make it a point of honour to set an example to the whole Catholic world of the most absolute mutual independence of Church and State. Rome as an Italian city will not cease to be the capital of Catholicity; nor the Vatican to be the residence of the Pope. The vast majority of Italians are Catholics, if not by nature, at least by custom, which is a second nature, and the incorporation of Rome into the kingdom of Italy will not obliterate the faith of millions in a single day. Even in the lowest point of view, the Papacy is a great vested interest of Italy, and especially of the Romans. It needs a tolerably robust faith in the progress of human intellect, and in the moral emancipation of the masses of mankind, to regard without apprehension the immediate issue of a free and fair trial of strength between Church and State in Italy. The probability is, and many sincere and far-sighted Catholics perceive it already, that the Church will for many years to come regain in spiritual what it loses in temporal power. We may be confident about the ultimate issue; as we are confident that whatever may be the immediate disadvantages to civilization of too sudden and complete a triumph of pure democracy in the old world, the final results must be beneficial to mankind. But of one thing we are certain; Italy will deserve better



THE EXCURSIONIST.—KIRKSTALL ABBEY.

THE OLD TYPE OF PARLIAMENT AND THE NEW.

THOSE who oppose Reform are always praising Parliament as it now exists. We begin to be tired of hearing Aristides always called the Just. What is there specially to admire in either House? The Parliaments which Lord Derby praises so much, the Parliaments of the representatives of the judicious ten-pound householders and of highly-educated, sensitive-minded peers, have become entirely sterile. They cannot do anything for us. They cannot give us an army, they cannot give us popular education, they cannot conciliate Ireland, they cannot do anything for the poor. Their intentions are admirable, and so is their public spirit, but they are impotent. Here is Lord Grey, their hope, their type, their specimen of the independent serious-minded peer, who comes forward at this stage of the Reform Bill and proposes—what? that we should keep the £10 franchise, and that at the same time some unknown impossible person should find an imaginary way of giving the suffrage to every deserving person. There is no getting on with men like this. Life is not of such a nature that we can afford to place our trust in men who think and talk and study for years, and when the moment for decision arrives, have nothing to say which could help a baby to cross a street. It is more than probable, it is almost certain, that in future Parliaments we shall replace these men with successors of a worse type; or, if the men remain the same, they will lose much of their independence, and will be much less guided by the opinion of English society—a society that is at least educated, refined, and honest. But if this happens, if we see a Parliament more vulgar, or more servile, or more reckless, if we find a laxity of principles surpassing even that of the Conservatives, if advancing democracy brings with it evil as well as good, we shall be able to console ourselves with the thought that Lord Grey had proved to demonstration that government by men of his type had become absolutely impossible.—*Saturday Review*.

We are happy to announce that his Highness the Viceroy of Egypt has given the munificent sum of £150 to the Royal Hospital for Incurables. The present hospital (Melrose Hall, Putney-heath) was in 1862 the temporary residence of his Highness the late Viceroy of Egypt.

Even the whims of a Sultan affect politics in his capital, and to conciliate him is to conciliate the ultimate executive Government of all Turkey—that is, of thirty-five millions of persons, with half of whom we have direct business relation. Indeed, it is more. The Sultan is Caliph as well as Sovereign; he is heard in Mecca as well as in Constantinople, and through Mecca his judgment weighs very heavily in all parts of our Indian dominions. Moreover, the Sultan probably obtained more political knowledge from his brief visit than from any passage in his whole life. It is difficult for Europeans to understand the deep ignorance of foreign countries in which even intelligent Orientals usually live. That the Sultan will go back disposed to introduce "reforms" as many persons believe, may be doubtful, for he cannot reach the root of the mischief, the creed of the governing caste, and even European monarchs do not part readily with absolute authority, while his religious authority could not be voluntarily put off. But he will go back with a much more vivid appreciation of the greatness of the West, a much more realistic view of his own position, a much greater readiness to believe that there are forces with which it is vain for him to contend.—*Economist*.

A PECULIAR PARSON.—A correspondent, referring to a notice which appeared in our columns a day or two since of the death of the Rev. F. E. Baker, of Allensmore, Herefordshire, writes:—"Now this paragraph hardly does justice to my old friend Frank Baker. He was a prodigy in his peculiar way, and lived perhaps before his time. As a young man he set to for a benefit of a poor pugilist with Tom Spring in my presence and others at the Castle, Holborn. He was, perhaps, one of the finest made men in England or he would not have dared to face Spring, then in his glory, having just licked Langham. He had an original mind, had the fastest trotting chestnut mare in Wiltshire or Dorsetshire, was a first-rate cricketer at Amesbury and Stockbridge when he was curate of Witley, in Wiltshire, or some place in Dorsetshire, and had an immense horror of humbugs, *soi-disant* swells, and cads in society, and, although I believe the late Bishop of Salisbury would not ordain him for some time owing to his vagaries, he was, when I met him in Herefordshire, in 1845, a most kind and exemplary clergyman."—*Full Mall Gazette*.

of humanity by establishing her own future as a State on secure foundations, by restoring her credit, liberating her industry, educating her people, introducing order and economy into her administration, and by cancelling that article of the *Statuto* which constitutes a State religion, then by throwing all the Church property in the fire, to warm the hands of an army of functionaries, or by starving the clergy to spite the Pope.—*Daily News*.

SIR WILLIAM ERLE.

WE must express surprise at the non-recognition by the present Government of the eminent services of the ex-Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. The other judges who have lately retired from office have been rewarded in a manner which befits their long and distinguished services, as well as "the honour and dignity" of those who confer such distinctions. Chief Baron Pollock was created a Baronet, the President of the Court of Session and Sir Hugh Cairns were raised to the peerage, and Sir R. Kindersley was made a Privy Councillor. Sir W. Erle alone has received no mark of distinction whatever. The conduct of the Government towards the ex-Chief Justice is much more than a matter of private feeling. Hitherto the House of Lords has strenuously rejected all attempts to render the House as a legal tribunal more satisfactory; and at the present moment the extreme age and serious infirmity of several of the legal peers render this tribunal especially obnoxious to criticism. In the great case of Overend, Gurney, and Co., the legal lords consisted only of the Chancellor, Lord Cranworth, and Lord Colonsay, and the chances are that this great case will be decided by fewer judges than would have sat had it been before the Privy Council. Lord Westbury is no doubt a host in himself, but he is a purely equity lawyer. At all events there is no tribunal in the world which would willingly dispense with the assistance of such a lawyer as Sir William Erle, nor is there any suitor who would not hail with pleasure and satisfaction his presence on the seat of justice. Few, very few, are the men fitted to sit as judges in the Supreme Court of Appeal of the kingdom; and therefore it is neither wise nor, indeed, very decorous to reject the services of a man who is capable of undertaking such duties, and of discharging them to the great advantage of the public and to the honour of the country.—*Daily News*.

LAW AND POLICE.

A STORY OF MISERY.—Charles, Alfred, and Mary Peck, three children, were charged before Mr. Tyrwhitt with begging.—Police-constable Joseph Edwards, said that about half-past five on Friday afternoon his attention was called by a lady to the children, who were singing and begging in Davies-street, Berkeley-square. It was raining hard at the time, and on his speaking to them they said their mother had sent them out since two o'clock to get some half-pence as she was sick. He took the children to the station, and afterwards went to where they lived in Suffolk-place, Edgware-road, and found the house one of the most wretched description, there being scarcely a vestige of furniture in the place. The father of the children was lying down and the mother nursing an infant, they having six children. On inquiring at the Marylebone Workhouse he found that the family had received relief.—The mother of the children said she did not send them out to beg. Her eldest boy was unable to go out, as she had been compelled to pledge his guitar. She only sent the children to Seven Dials for some songs. Her husband was convicted three years ago for deserting her and her family, and while he was in prison she had with her children to go into the Marylebone Workhouse, and her husband had done no work since.—The constable stated that the children had some fragments of songs with them.—The mother asked for her children to be given up.—Mr. Tyrwhitt said he was afraid the children all went out under the impression that it being a rainy day they would get more. He would give the children up, and have inquiries made respecting the mother, and if she was found to be a decent woman something should be done for her.

FURIOUS RIDING IN ROTTEN-ROW.—Mr. Cecil Hubbard, of No. 24, Prince's-gate, Hyde-park, was summoned before Mr. Tyrwhitt, by the police, for furious riding in Rotten-row.—Police-constable Palmer, A 641, saw the defendant riding in Rotten-row about half-past five on Saturday, the 13th inst. The defendant was with another gentleman, who was fined last week, and was riding his horse as hard as it could gallop. The defendant went to the end of the row, and on his return he asked him for his name, but the defendant, instead of giving it, offered him something to drink. The defendant's name was eventually given.—The defendant said his horse was a high-spirited animal, and broke into a gallop of its own accord.—Mr. Tyrwhitt said it was a most dangerous practice to gallop horses in such a frequented place as Rotten-row. Persons had no right to ride horses they could not manage. The defendant must pay a fine of 40s. The money was immediately paid.

ESCAPE AND RE-CAPTURE OF A PRISONER.—A tall man, who gave the name of West, was charged before Mr. Barker with stealing some articles of wearing apparel at Camden-town. The prisoner was brought to Clerkenwell for the robbery some time back, but while the sergeant was handing in the charge-sheet he made his escape. The sergeant afterwards accidentally met him in the Strand, and re-arrested him.—The prisoner said he was guilty, and should like to have the case settled at once, as it would save trouble and expense.—The police asked for a remand to enable them to find owners for the carpenter's tools that were found in the prisoner's possession.—Mr. Barker remanded the prisoner, and he was carefully removed to the cells.

A MOTHER TEACHING HER CHILD TO STEAL.—Emily Halliwell, aged 38, and Elizabeth Halliwell, aged 9, mother and daughter, were charged before Mr. Barker with stealing a pair of boots, the property of William McLennan. The woman, accompanied by the child, called at 94, Essex-road, Islington, and ordered a pair of boots to be sent to Wellington-street. When they went out a pair of boots were missed, and the shopman went after the prisoners. He saw the girl handing the boots to her mother, and he gave them both into custody.—Mr. Barker remanded the prisoners for a week.

KILLING A DOG.—Alfred Garrett, residing in Enfield-road, Kingsland, answered a summons preferred against him by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for brutally kicking and beating a dog, thereby causing its death. The deceased dog and two others were playing in defendant's garden, when he rushed out, struck the first-named animal with a stick, and administered some kicks to it, which caused its death.—The defendant expressed his regret for the death of the dog, but denied having kicked it. The nuisance occasioned by the dogs making a battle ground of his garden was unbearable.—Mr. Ellison said: I distinctly tell you that had there been any proof of your being of a violent disposition, I would send you to prison for a long period without the chance of paying any fine. I order you to pay 50s., or be imprisoned for twenty-one days.—The defendant remarked that he would never again contribute to the funds of a society at whose instance he had been summoned and fined for what after all was purely a private matter. He offered to place £5 in the poor box if Mr. Ellison would remit the fine, but that gentleman declined to entertain the proposition. The fine was then paid.

GOING TO THE REVIEW.—James Anson, a respectable-looking man, was re-examined on the charge of stealing a watch, value £20, the property of Mr. Charles King, a gentleman residing at Bedford.—The prosecutor had been to the review, and on returning to Putney-station his watch was stolen. The prisoner denied the charge, stating that he was a respectable man, but the prosecutor said that if he had been the Sultan he would be quite sure that he took his watch. He jumped on to the buffer of a carriage, and tried to get across the line, but the prosecutor held him, and the watch was found on the line.—Six months imprisonment with hard labour.

DAMAGING THE RIFLE BUTTS.—George Cousins, a youth, was charged by Sergeant Gadd with digging the rifle butts at Wimbledon-common, with a stick for bullets.—On being taken into custody ten bullets were found upon him. It was stated that the butts had been injured to a great extent by boys and other persons digging for the bullets which had become buried in the embankment during the late rifle shooting.—The prisoner was fined 20s., with the alternative of ten days' imprisonment.

A "COMMERCIAL" IN TROUBLE.—A commercial traveller was charged with being drunk and assaulting Elizabeth Davies, an old lady, 79 years of age, and breaking her left thigh bone.—At about half-past ten on Friday night the prisoner and two friends were walking down Coleman-street, having evidently had something to drink. On their way they came across Mrs. Davies, who was standing on the pavement near the road, and the defendant intentionally gave her a push, which threw her on the ground into the middle of the road. They then all walked on, and went into a public-house in Coleman-street, where they were overtaken by two of the witnesses, and in company with them a police-constable came back to see what injury they had done. One of the witnesses said he believed it was done intentionally, and his reasons for saying so were that there was plenty of room for them to pass without touching the poor woman; that he walked up to her and knocked her down in a steady walk, in which there was nothing of the roll of a drunken man; and that when he asked the prisoner, "Do you call this a practical joke?" his companion said, "Oh, you be—; she should get out of the way."—Mr. F. H. Simpson, surgeon, 34, Fore-street, said about eleven o'clock at night he was called to 7, Green-court, Coleman-street, and there found Elizabeth Davies, who is in her 80th year. She was in great pain, and complained of her hip hurting her. He examined the part and found that the neck of the

thigh bone was fractured. She refused to go to the hospital, and was now at home. There was no immediate danger, but danger might arise in a few days or weeks. If bed sores set in, which they did sometimes at such an advanced age as Mrs. Davies's, and then there would be great danger. The woman's impression with regard to the assault was that they mistook her for a young woman and gave her a push, which caused the accident.—The prisoner in defence said that he and his friends were going down Coleman-street, when they passed Mrs. Davies, who was shaking a carpet on the kerb, and so slight was the push that she received from him that he never felt it, and that the first intimation that he got of the accident was the witnesses coming to him and telling him what had taken place. They immediately upon hearing it came back to see what had happened.—Mr. Alderman Cotton said he should remand the case for a week, but he would accept bail for his appearance, himself in £100 and two sureties of £50 each.

PRETTY POLLY AND THE BURGLARS.—Edward Paul, Edward Lewis, and Edward Harding were finally examined upon the charge of burglariously entering the dwelling-house of Mr. Woodger, 76, Westbourne-park Villas, Paddington, on the night of the 16th inst., and stealing therefrom plate and other articles of the value of £20.—Sergeant Burcher, 11 X, saw Harding near the house bleeding from a wound on one of his fingers. He and one of the other prisoners were also seen by the sergeant wearing overcoats which evidently did not fit them, and were too superior for them. The fact of the burglary was communicated to Mr. Mackrell, who, with the sergeant, apprehended the prisoners and recovered all the property. It appears that in the kitchen a parrot was kept, and Harding had attempted to capture it, and in so doing received his wound. Mrs. Woodger, in her evidence said two canaries and a thrush had been carried off by the burglars. She found the parrot had been taken from its cage which was fastened up the previous night. Its feathers were strewn about the kitchen, showing that poor Polly had had a severe struggle, in which she was successful, as she was found comparatively unharmed under a table.—The prisoners were committed for trial.

THE IRREPRESSIBLE MARQUIS.—At Bow-street Police-court Andrew Campbell, a young man of respectable appearance, who described himself as a printer, was charged with assaulting the Marquis Townshend.—The marquis stated that he was in Holborn on Sunday night when he observed a crowd and a disturbance going on. A young man (not the prisoner) struck an old gentleman who had taken no part in the matter. Witness remonstrated with him, upon which the prisoner, who was a little the worse for liquor, came up and struck witness a violent blow in the face, from which he had now a black eye. Witness seized the prisoner, detained him till a constable arrived, and he gave him in custody. The prisoner's father, however, had since called upon him and offered an apology. He (the noble marquis) was willing to accept the apology, and with the magistrate's permission would therefore withdraw the charge, as he found the prisoner bore a very good character.—The prisoner's employer said the prisoner had worked for him some months, and he had never known a steadier or harder working man.—Mr. Flowers said he was very glad to hear it. He must impress on the prisoner that the readiness of the noble marquis to withdraw the charge, simply because of his previous good conduct, ought to teach him the value of a good character, and warn him not to risk it by indulgence in liquor, which probably was the cause of his committing himself this occasion. He might now be discharged.

THE CONFESIONAL UNMASKED.—William Reach was charged by Lieutenant F. Sandys Dugmore, of Her Majesty's Royal Canadian Rifles, with selling indecent books and with obstructing the public footpath.—The complainant said he was passing through Tottenham-court-road, when he saw the defendant selling a work called "The Confessional Unmasked," published by the Protestant Union. He wished to direct the attention of the magistrate to one or two parts which would prove the indecent character of the work.—Mr. Tyrwhitt, having looked at the passages, said the book was certainly a very dirty book, and he should now ask the defendant what he had to say.—The defendant stated that he had got the book from the Secretary of the Protestant Union—he sold it without being aware of its contents. The complainant, however, must have known more about the work than he chose to avow, because in a few minutes after the purchase he brought a constable and gave him into custody.—Mr. Tyrwhitt wished to know how the complainant came to hit upon the indecent passages so readily.—The complainant said he had seen in the newspapers an account of the seizure and condemnation of the work by some magistrates of the Midland counties. He had not read the work before he bought it of the defendant, and was unacquainted with its character, except what he had learnt from the newspapers.—Mr. Tyrwhitt said it was certainly very odd that the complainant should know so much about a work which he had never read. As for what had appeared in the newspapers, he could not take anything of the kind into account unless he had placed before him an authentic and impartial report of what really occurred. The work sold by the defendant might be different to the work condemned by the magistrates.—The defendant said he got the work from the secretary of the union, and his only object in selling it was to get the price of a day's work for his family.—The complainant said he was an officer in Her Majesty's service, and he hoped he should be believed on his oath when he stated that he had given only four hours' attention to the work since the defendant had been in custody.—Mr. Tyrwhitt said the work purported to be translations of questions asked females in the confessional. He pronounced no opinion upon the accuracy of the translation, but certainly nothing could be more dirty or objectionable than the matter in the pamphlet. The defendant might have known nothing about the work he was selling; he had, however, created an obstruction by carrying a long placard, and for that offence he would fine him 1s.

THE TWO LOVERS.—A French polisher was charged with violently assaulting Mr. Eugene Vann, a coachbuilder.—The complainant said that without the least provocation the defendant assaulted him and pulled him by the collar. He fetched a police-constable, and whilst the constable was getting the defendant's name and address the defendant rushed at him, caught him a violent blow under the chin, cut his face, and caused him to lose a great deal of blood.—In answer to the defendant, the complainant said he had never said that he would make it hot for him the first time he could get a chance.—The defendant said that after that the complainant would swear that a coalheaver was a canary. (A laugh.) He was keeping company with a young woman that used to live in the complainant's house, and because she would not take any notice of him he said he would spit his spite on him (the defendant).—Mary Bentley, of 116, Tottenham-road, said the defendant was her "young man," and said she had kept company with him. The complainant had been in the habit of following her and annoying her. On Saturday the complainant followed her, and then the defendant pushed him, but did not strike him. The complainant had frequently told her that he wanted a young wife to prolong his life. (A laugh.)—Mr. Cooke asked the complainant if it was true that he had been keeping company with the witness, and that the engagement was now broken off.—The complainant, an elderly man, said that it was. He could not be always following her about, for he was in the country all the week. He produced some letters that the witness had sent to him, and stated that during his absence she had slept twice in his bed.—Mr. Cooke said the assault at first appeared to be a very aggravated one, but it was now mitigated by what he had heard. Had it not been so defendant would have been severely punished. As it was he would have to find two sureties in the sum of £20 each, and himself in double the amount, to keep the peace for six calendar months.

THE ATTEMPT ON HER MAJESTY'S LIFE.

The following, from the "Life of the Prince Consort," will be read with interest:—

On the 10th of June, 1849, Edward Oxford made his attempt on the Queen's life. Our readers will be interested in seeing Prince Albert's own account of the affair. It was addressed to his grandmother:—

"To the Dowager Duchess of Gotha, &c.

"Buckingham Palace, June 11, 1849.

"Dear Grandmama,—I hasten to give you an account of an event which might otherwise be misrepresented to you, which endangered my life and that of Victoria, but from which we escaped under the protection of the watchful hand of Providence. We drove out yesterday afternoon, about six o'clock, to pay Aunt Kent a visit, and to take a turn round Hyde Park. We drove in a small phaeton. I sat on the right, Victoria on the left. We had hardly proceeded a hundred yards from the Palace when I noticed on the foot-path, on my side, a little mean-looking man holding something towards us, and before I could distinguish what it was, a shot was fired, which almost stunned us both, it was so loud, and fired barely six paces from us, Victoria had just turned to the left to look at a horse, and could not therefore understand why her ears were ringing, as from its being so very near she could hardly distinguish that it proceeded from a shot having been fired. The horses started, and the carriage stopped. I seized Victoria's hands, and asked if the fright had not shaken her, but she laughed at the thing. I then looked again at the man, who was still standing in the same place, his arms crossed, and a pistol in each hand. His attitude was so affected and theatrical it quite amused me. Suddenly he again pointed his pistol and fired a second time. This time Victoria also saw the shot, and stooped quickly, drawn down by me. The ball must have passed just above her head, to judge from the place where it was found sticking in an opposite wall. The many people who stood round us and the man, and were at first petrified with fright on seeing what had happened, now rushed upon him. I called to the postillion to go on, and we arrived safely at Aunt Kent's. From thence we took a short drive through the park, partly to give Victoria a little air, partly also to show the public that we had not, on account of what had happened, lost all confidence in them.

"To-day I am very tired and knocked up by the quantity of visitors, the questions and descriptions I have had to give. You must, therefore, excuse my ending now, only thanking you for your letter, which I have just received, but have not yet been able to read. My chief anxiety was lest the fright should have been injurious to Victoria in her present state, but she is quite well, as I am myself. I thank Almighty God for His protection. Your faithful grandson,

ALBERT.

"The name of the culprit is Edward Oxford. He is seventeen years old, a waiter in a low inn—not mad, but quiet and composed."

A MAGIC WAND.

STARE super vias antiquas cannot, assuredly, be applied to Paris. The magic wand of M. Hausmann, having converted the Buttes de Chaumont into a little Switzerland, is about to be waved over Montmartre, which is to be transformed into a public park, with boulevards and houses on the stereotyped plan. The change, however advantageous in a sanitary point of view, cannot but be deplored by antiquaries and lovers of the picturesque. Montmartre may be said to have had three distinct races of tenants. Firstly, antediluvian animals, over the bones of which Cuvier spent many hours; secondly, labourers who have worked for years in the gypsum quarries, for which Montmartre is celebrated; and, thirdly, a race of Bohemians, who, under the professional name of "Saltimbanques," attracted Parisians to their performances on the heights of Montmartre until they were put down by the strong arm of the law. What this picturesque eminence will be in a few years it is not difficult to predict. We may even doubt whether M. Hausmann will respect the Cemetery. This was the first established after the suppression of burial-places in the city, and was originally named Champ de Repos. Around it a large town has sprung up, containing a great number of quaint and picturesque houses, all of which are about to disappear.

"Life and Work at the Great Pyramid during the Months of January, February, March, and April, A.D. 1865; with a Discussion of the Facts ascertained." By C. Piazzi Smyth, Astronomer Royal for Scotland. 3 vols. (Edinburgh, Edmonston and Douglas.)

THE author is a little given to ambiguous writing, which makes it difficult to know exactly what he is talking about. The following is an interesting passage, the manner of which reminds us greatly of Volney:—

"'Scenes in the Eighteenth Dynasty.'—But now let the trumpet sound—the curtain rise, on the eighteenth dynasty, and who are these on the painted monuments before us? Brickmakers; and desperately are they toiling at their ungainly occupation. With backs bent horizontal they dig up the tough clay with short hooked implements, merely a small improvement of their natural hands. The process of moulding the clay, tapping out the pressed lump, piling the rectangular blocks, and carrying them away in collections of as many as one man can just stagger under, are interesting enough in an industrial art and trade point of view. But there all the time sits the taskmaster with his stick; a cinnamon-coloured, clean-shaved, black-wigged Egyptian he is; and then we may perceive that the brickmakers are not his countrymen, but light brown men, with aquiline noses, grey eyes, and naturally growing short beards of reddish hair; a more northern race evidently than the Egyptians, possibly Israelites, and certainly Palestinians of some order from the new overrun regions of the Delta. Foreign slave labour has evidently come into vogue since we last made acquaintance with these men of the monuments."

HINTS TO BILLIARD PLAYERS.—If you place two balls near the middle pockets at the natural angle of forty-five degrees from the centre of the baulk, and your own ball on the centre spot on the baulk line, you will have before you two easy losing hazards, which continually occur in the course of every man's lay. Now strike your ball fairly in the centre, with moderate strength, in such a way as to divide the object-ball about halfway on the right or left side, according to the pocket in which you wish to hole yourself, and you cannot fail to make the losing hazard. Remember that half a ball is the one required, with just enough strength to carry your own ball fairly into the pocket. Repeat the stroke over and over again till you make the hazard with certainty and dexterity. When you have thoroughly conquered this stroke, you will have acquired more than many a billiard player ever really accomplishes during the whole course of his life, for you will not only know the principle, but also how to apply it. Afterwards you may shift the striking-ball to the right or the left, and thus make the angle more or less acute; but the principle of the natural angle of forty-five degrees holds good through all variations of position, if you make allowance for the variation by greater or lesser divisions of the object-ball.—*Sporting Gazette.*

PROUD OF HIS POST.—A bill-sticker in Dublin has dignified his profession by a new title. He advertises himself as the "Champion Dead-wall Decorator." This is neat! We suppose our posters will soon be enrolled as the Honourable Company of Hoarding-Hiders.—*Fun.*

HITTING IT.—There is a good deal in a taking title, publishers say. If so, the new Yeddo paper ought to attract attention, for it is to be called the "Ban-Kok-Shin-Bur-Shi." Of course it will be called the "Kok-Shi" for short.—*Fun.*

ST. MARY'S ISLAND.

SOME few years ago, this extensive island consisted of nothing but marsh land, bounded by the River Medway on the north and west side, and by St. Mary's Creek on the south and east side. Formerly the island was used as a burial-place for French prisoners of war who were imprisoned on board of Government hulks moored in the river. This spot where the bodies of the unfortunate men were interred is now fenced in, and no doubt in time trees will be planted there, and also a monument erected to the memory of the dead. The island was also used as a grazing ground for cattle. But as time wore on, Government conceived the idea of having a convict prison built at St. Mary's, and near to the island, for the purpose of employing convicts to work in the dockyard, and also in building a substantial sea wall round St. Mary's Island; the idea of Government being to convert the place into large basins and building docks in amalgamation with the dockyard. Accordingly, the prison was built and occupied by upwards of 1,000 convicts, who have been employed in constructing the sea wall of the island for some eight years past, and have now completed a large portion of it, and also blocked up the inlet and outlet of St. Mary's Creek.

As the work progressed under the able direction of Majors Pasley and Clarke, and E. Bernays, Esq., the Government issued placards, &c., inviting large contractors to tender for the construction of two immense basins, &c., for shipping, and after a great deal of delay the tender of Signor Gabrielli was accepted; and such has been the progress made by the men in the employ of that gentleman, that in the short time of a few months, about thirty miles of iron tramways have been laid down, all kinds of steam engines and locomotives are at work, buildings have been erected, &c., and there are now nearly 1,000 men employed, consisting of mechanics, excavators, and labourers, beside about 800 convicts; there are also upwards of twelve miles of brick hatching, thereby constituting the island the largest brickfield in England. This brick-making causes six steam machines to be constantly at work moulding bricks.

To an individual who has not seen St. Mary's Island for the last ten years past, he would fancy the place converted into one immense factory, for there are a large number of buildings now erected which consist of offices, steam saw mills, carpenters' shops, blacksmiths' shops, fitters' and moulders' shops, stables, cement and mortar factories, &c., so that when the works are completed the Chatham Dockyard Extension Works might fairly be termed the largest naval arsenal in the world.

Signor Gabrielli, although a foreigner, with a true English spirit has caused to be erected a very large and commodious dining hall on the island, the want of which has long been felt by the workmen employed there, who consider it a great boon in damp weather. Hitherto they have had to partake of their meals in the open air, but now they are accommodated with a spacious building, which contains rooms for officers, foremen, mechanics, and a large room for general hands, besides a well-fitted bar, kitchen, sleeping rooms, scullery, vaults, &c. The extent of this valuable edifice is 64 ft. by 60 ft., and will accommodate nearly 500 people. The internal arrangements are under the direct management of those enterprising co-partners Messrs. Burdett and Walker, who supply the workmen with cooked meat, vegetables, bread and cheese, Whitebread and Co.'s porter and stout, and Leney's ales, also Hall's mineral waters; and such are the endeavours of these gentlemen to please everyone that they are well patronized—nearly 400 dining there every week day. The contractors also use this building for paying the men, it being so large and convenient. Visitors from Somerset House and other places are also regaled at this hospitable establishment. The dining hall is open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and refreshments are served to the men on the works at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Another very useful building is now in the course of erection, situated directly opposite the dining hall, which is a much-needed surgery. The extent of this building will be about 50 ft. by 40 ft.

Near the north-east side of St. Mary's Island there used to stand a martello tower, bridges, wharves, &c., the latter belonging to the authorities of Gillingham Parish, but since the Dockyard Extension Works have been commenced, these have been demolished, so as to allow a large and free entrance to the extensive basins. Government has also contracted with Messrs. Ball and Son, contractors, for the erection of a commodious pier and wharves, farther to the eastward of the old ones, for the use of the inhabitants of Gillingham, which, when completed, will be of great utility, as the Medway Company's steamboats will call there in going from Chatham to Sheerness, and vice versa. These works have already commenced.

SWEDISH MARRIAGES.

WE call attention to the refusal of the Swedish Legislature to legalize marriages between Swedes who are not members and communicants of the National Lutheran Church. That decision was received with mingled shame and sorrow by the liberal section of the nation, and was regarded as a cruel denial of justice to an increasingly large number of their fellow-countrymen. By Swedish dissenters, especially the Baptists, whose "churches" are now numerous, it had been expected that the abolition of the House of Clergy and the inauguration of the new Constitution would be the signal for liberty in this matter. Eight years ago Dr. Steane and Mr. Hinton went to Sweden as a deputation from the Baptists of England, to try to obtain for their co-religionists from the then Government the concession of liberty to worship and marry according to their own rites. The demand was received in an evasive and temporizing manner, and nothing being done in the first few years of the reign of the present king, the new Parliament was confidently looked to for liberation. But the old leaven of clerical intolerance was found to work strongly in

the Upper House. The rejection of the measure had consequently driven the Baptists to set at defiance laws which would keep them in celibacy or force them into exile or a demoralizing hypocrisy. A newspaper of the province of Nerike describes the open celebration at Orebro of a Baptist marriage. The ceremony commenced with singing, prayer, and Bible reading. Then followed an address setting forth the disappointment at the decision of the Legislature, and that, as the New Testament had prescribed no particular ceremony of marriage, this union in the presence of the Church had been resolved on. The bride and bridegroom then came forward, and the bridegroom declared that, "in the presence of God and that of his Church, he took his sister in the faith for his true wife, to be faithful to her by God's help, and to love her in life and death." The bride on her part then made a similar avowal, and further religious exercises and a wedding feast followed. In the face of an extraordinary and incessant emigration, Sweden will probably find it best to abandon the policy of clerical bigots and adopt a more enlightened theory as to marriage.

FREEMASONRY.

EQUADOR.

Masonry was introduced into this republic about 1857, the Supreme Council of Peru granting the charter for a symbolic lodge, Ancient and Accepted Rite, at Guayaquil. I was informed, while sojourning at that place, that the lodge was dedicated with imposing public ceremonies and procession, in consequence of which much opposition was at once made to the Order by the powerful influence of the Jesuits, and with the convulsions of civil war, anarchy, and despotism which has alternately ruled for years in that country, it was not possible for the lodge to prosper; and, after a lingering existence of about two years, it closed its labours and surrendered its charter. Since then no effort has been made to establish regular Masonic bodies in that sparsely settled country, whose native inhabitants are far from being sufficiently advanced in civilization to comprehend and appreciate the sublime principles of our teachings.

PERU.

My stay of three months at Lima enabled me to form intimate social relations with many of the illustrious brethren at that capital, for whom I will ever cherish the most pleasing recollections and fraternal regard for the many courtesies extended to me during my sojourn in that land of the once powerful Incas.

The history of Masonry in Peru has truly been most chequered, and oftentimes discouraging to those whose commendable patience continued for years struggling against innumerable obstacles, in their efforts to establish and propagate the sublime truths and peaceful mission of the fraternal bond, and teachings of goodwill to man.

There is no authentic history of the existence of the Order in that country prior to 1821. It is asserted that its first introduction dates from the time when the Spanish army entered Peru to oppose the War of Independence. In several of the regiments were said to be travelling lodges, but those having the work under their control were very cautious in taking every means to prevent the spread of liberal ideas and the principles of Masonry, admitting none, especially Peruvians, without undoubted proof that they were loyal to Spain. Other impediments to the advance of the Order was further caused by the hatred and religious despotism of the Viceroy, who at that time viewed every Mason as a monster, and fit only for the severest punishment, and when discovered among the Peruvians, the least punishment was transportation to Spain, divested for life of all position, and on their arrival were banished to the penal colonies.

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